■ MODERN LIVING

Pets take pride of place as Easter presents

Pets are bringing in profits. People are spending millions on four-legged and feathered friends. Dealers, breeders and importers are supplying everything from humming-birds to donkeys and wild animals. This Easter too "live" presents were popular especially with children. In this article the most popular pets are discussed and also the important question: What animals can safely be given to children?

More and more children are discovering on Easter Sunday morning that Easter eggs can have four legs or wings. Fewer parents are now afraid of large and small animals in the house since they are aware of the educational value of living with animals.

What is taken for granted in the country is now becoming very popular in the city. Despite living amongst high buildings, despite cantankerous landlords who make a point of writing in a "no animals" clause into the tenancy agreement, increasing numbers of pets are finding accommodation in flats everywhere.

Animals, birds and fish of every shape and colour are being adopted with enthusiasm. The traditional house pet, the dog, is no longer master of all he surveys.

For years dogs had few companions on the list of domestic pets. The dog is still leading the field, but his popularity is being encroached upon from all sides. In Hamburg, for example, the number of registered dogs fell in ten years from 52,000 to 42,000.

There are reasons for this other than those connected with the growing popularity of other pets. Otto Kertscher, president of the Hamburg Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, blames full employment. A dog must not only be fed regularly, it must be given a run several times a day. People who leave the house in the morning only to return in the evening must dispense with a four-legged friend.

Cats have leapt elegantly into the breech. On the popularity scale they have outstripped the dogs. Cats need attention too, but they adjust more easily to the demands of modern life. In the strict sense of the phrase, they lead their own lives. After a time, they attune themselves completely to the individual's way of life.

Many people, however, have an aversion to cats. They prefer the dog's frolics, his loyalty, often his complete subjugation to his master's will.

Not all dogs, however, are that submissive. In the case of the dachshund, for example, still the most popular dog in Bavaria, the word "master" or Herrchen is more often than not a joke.

In other parts of the country (three million Marks are spent annually on dogs) the poodle takes the honours in popularity. This lively, alert animal, loved as a "clown," is a much-coveted Easter present for the whole family.

Ponies are not difficult to keep as this little girl shows

(Photos: Conti-Press)



A little girl feeding her hamster with milk

Expensive birds

The quadruped's feathered friends are determined not to be outclassed nowadays. Bird-fanciers spend 100 million Marks every year for their pets, especially parakeets and canaries.

In recent years pet shops have grown into miniature zoos. Here one can buy everything from guinea-pigs, marmots, sweet- and salt-water fish and bears to exotic wild animals.

Many pet shops stock monkeys, although demand for these primates has weakened since the green-tailed monkey disease broke out in Marburg. Marmosets and capuchins, once the dream of many children, especially boys, remain in their torrid zones. Imports of monkeys have declined since they were found to be potential carriers of dangerous diseases.

Not only monkeys but every species of exotic animal can spread viruses. Since the Marburg epidemic, however, animals are carefully examined before being allowed into the country.

A prominent specialist in diseases of this kind, a professor of tropical medicine, has no great objections to keeping exotic animals. He said, "Keeping exotic animals in the home is of course always a risk, but if a number of precautionary measures are taken, such as would be recommended by a veterinary surgeon, the hazards involved can be greatly reduced."

Clearly, owners of exotic reptiles, birds and crawling animals are very well-informed. One West-Berlin dealer said that big snakes are selling well. "People who want to buy a snake come to us weeks or months beforehand to learn all there is to learn about keeping snakes."

The alarm raised by unsuspecting neighbours at the sight of reptiles (many families now even have crocodiles as pets) has called out the police on many a wild goose chase. Once an emergency call came from a factory in a small northern town — the caretaker was found to have a boa constrictor in his bath. Hamburg SPCA chief Inspector, Willi Stock, who in ten years has saved 5,072 animals — from dogs to bears — from cruel treatment, rushed to the scene to save the neighbours from being strangled. He found that the snake was well fed and kept and much too lazy to do any unnecessary coiling.

Children should not be given adders and caymans as presents, not because these are dangerous but because they need special care and much patience.

Parents are always wondering what animal they should give their children. Actually the answer is not very difficult. The choice of the pet depends on the age and temperament of the child. Very small children should not be brought into contact with animals.

The slow tortoise is the best companion for tots of about four years and older. This sturdy creature suffers blows and knocks with great patience. It hardly ever injures itself and seems to have nerves of steel.

Five-year-olds can be given guinea-pigs without fear of anything much happening. These little animals are not vicious and disappear into their boxes when the going gets tough.

Six-year-olds can be entrusted with the care of song-birds. Their habits are like children's — they sleep when it gets dark and wake up at sunrise.

Good keepers

Children of eight or ten are intelligent enough to care properly for more sensitive animals. Whether with dogs or cats, terrarium or aquarium, children soon learn to be considerate in their treatment of animals. They learn to love creatures that are weaker than themselves and more dependent.

Eberhard Trumle, author of *Living with Animals*, writes, "Child psychology has shown that whereas children have a marked interest in animals they also have the beginnings of cruelty in their hearts. These can be controlled or allowed to develop at will."

Dealers are expecting keen demand for ponies this spring. A pony can be kept on a small field, in a big garden. A stable is needed and fodder costs about eighty Marks monthly. When circumstances are favourable, the children's joy will be ample compensation for the parent's relatively high expenditure of 500 to 1,000 Marks.

Donkeys are now almost neck and neck with ponies in the race for popularity. Donkeys are always a jolly sight in a garden or meadow. "Demand for donkeys was never so great," said one dealer.

More and more families are extending their miniature zoos in gardens and parks, introducing exotic animals. "I have orders for eight to ten hunting-leopards," said one importer. They cost about 3,000 Marks each. He is selling ocelots for 800 Marks. A peacock can be had for 480 Marks. "There is a great demand for small bears," the dealer added.

Special orders are coming in all the time and are no surprise to dealers. "We have supplied people with elephants." These big fellows cost anything between eight and twelve thousand Marks — nothing for the small gardener.

"We advise people thoroughly on what to do," the dealer continued. "We see to it that every animal finds the proper home. Anyway, in the case of elephants and various predatory animals certain laws must be obeyed. These must be considered first by potential owners."

(WELT am SONNTAG, 6 April 1969)

In the Federal Republic there are at present, according to recent estimates

- **Four million dogs**
- **Three million cats**
- **Ten millions birds in cages**
- **150 million fish in aquariums.**

In the pet business 500,000 people are employed, including dealers, importers, manufacturers of cages, aquariums and accessories and food and fodder supplies

The German Tribune

Hamburg, 6 May 1969
Eighth Year - No. 369 - By Air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Russia's Comecon has its dissidents as well!



We know from our own experience with the Western European Common Market that integrating member-countries of a supra-national economic community does not run smoothly and according to plan.

How instructive it is to see others making even heavier weather of it — Comecon, for instance, the economic grouping of Eastern European communist countries (excluding Yugoslavia and Albania but including the Mongolian People's Republic, Moscow's only reliable satellite in Asia)!

It is only a few years since the then Czech Foreign Trade Minister explained to the West that Comecon was not a supra-national institution but merely made recommendations to member-governments.

Replying to the query whether Prague had ever rejected a recommendation of this kind the Minister, who is still a member of the Prague Cabinet, stated "*We* haven't but others have made use of this right." After the recent Comecon conference in Moscow it does not look as though much has changed in this respect.

It is no doubt correct to suppose that this is because of the Rumanians' desire for independence but it is not the whole story. Where its government's economic policy is concerned Bucharest does not want to submit to orders from other Comecon members, but as regards boosting Comecon's joint performance potential the Rumanian government has, in recent years, repeatedly developed ideas that have gone further than the Soviet Union's willingness to show solidarity with smaller allies.

Moscow has laid down its trade policy with neighbouring communist countries in bilateral agreements only and never shown inclination towards multilateral settlements. In granting credits too it has never involved Comecon, always preferring to negotiate from a position of economic strength individually with smaller partners in the bloc. Still less is there any question of a joint labour market in which, for instance, Ukrainian clerical workers could seek employment in neighbouring Czechoslovakia or Hungarians in Rumania.

In the communique issued by the Moscow Comecon conference mention was made for the first time of a joint investment bank. No details of source and amount of capital were given. The settlements bank that is intended to promote payments between member-countries but which is nowhere near free inter-convertibility of currencies, is to be expanded. How is not explained.

A better exchange of technological and scientific experience is also anticipated, but will the Soviet Union, for instance, provide other Eastern European countries with details of its nuclear technology, even the most minor ones?

As far as can be judged all that has had any effect to date has been a number of recommendations to member-countries to concentrate on certain industrial sectors, but countries that are given mere auxiliary functions in the joint economic development of the Eastern bloc, as Rumania was for a time, do not worry unduly about even these recommendations.

Now there are promises of economic cooperation with other socialist countries that is China and its friends and with countries that do not possess a socialist economic structure. Yet when Czechoslovakia made a modest attempt in this direction last year the mere attempt was one of the reasons given for intervention in that country by Moscow and its closer associates.

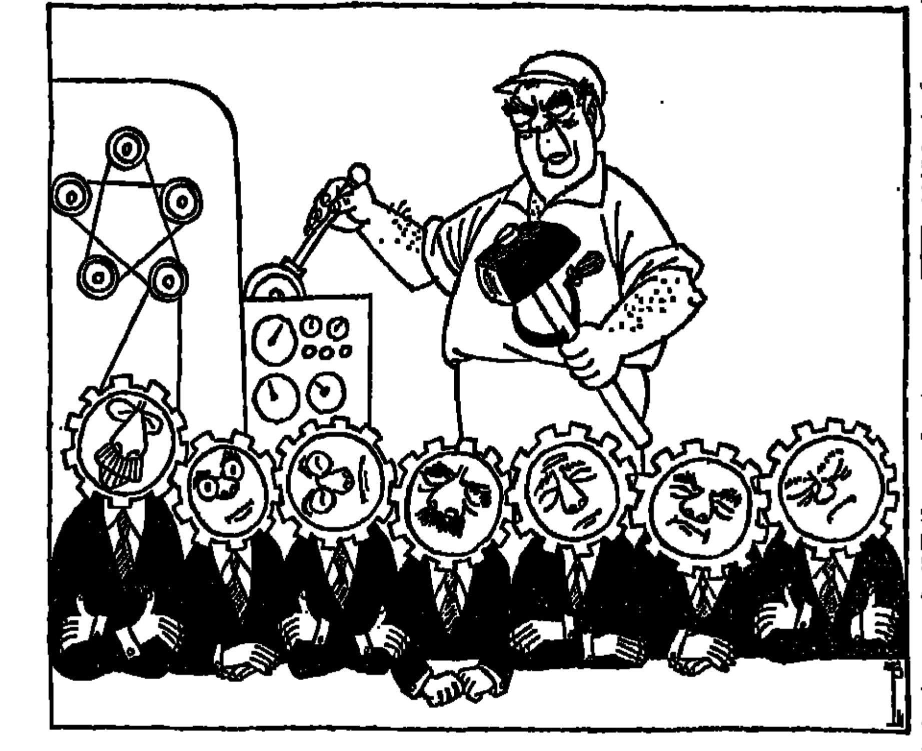
In countries where trade is government every agreement on credit or an exchange of goods is bound to appear to be a political act. Accordingly, a communist-governed country such as Yugoslavia, where foreign trade has developed into the concern of economic self-administrative bodies, can no longer be incorporated in the cumbersome framework of Comecon.

Following the conclusion of the Moscow conference Walter Ulbricht loudly proclaimed that the economic solidarity of the communist world will contribute towards proof of its superiority over capitalism.

If the Moscow resolutions really do lead to better development of the economy of Eastern Europe, we can be happy. These countries are, after all, trading partners of ours. Yet for the time being Comecon seems slowly and only with difficulty able to stumble over the shackles imposed on its economy by state bureaucracy.

Immanuel Birnbaum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung 28 April 1969)



All running smoothly - only the Rumanians don't mesh well

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

IN THIS ISSUE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS — Page 2
To sign or not to sign the NPT

LABOUR RELATIONS — Page 5
Hans Katzer's labour bill gains wider acceptance

LITERATURE — Page 7
Literary conference at Lake Constance

AVIATION — Page 12
British withdrawal and poor sales plague airbus

TECHNOLOGY — Page 13
Atomic Energy Forum adjusts to the changing times

SPORT — Page 15
Does trainer Helmut Schön lack decision?

De Gaulle – how are the mighty fallen!

Only a few weeks ago Richard Nixon called Charles de Gaulle a giant. Little could he imagine that the giant of Paris would come a cropper at the hands of his own people in such a short space of time. In December 1965 General de Gaulle still polled 55 per cent of the votes. After the number of misguided decisions that have since been made things could only head downhill.

Psychoanalysts and historians will long be wondering why the General without compelling need chose to make his political future dependent on the outcome of a referendum on the introduction of a modest degree of federalism.

His period of office was due to last until December 1972. There are still sceptics who reckon that General de Gaulle will no doubt find a reason yet for not carrying out his declared intention of resigning in the event of defeat, but people who know the man feel that such a move is hardly likely.

Many observers, on the other hand, would not be surprised if the General were to stand again for the Presidential elections that must now be held by 8 June at the latest. This is particularly likely if, as Gaullists have gloomily forecast, unrest occurs over the next few weeks.

But it is, no doubt, more to the point to concentrate on developments that are certain to happen. Already, to all intents and purposes, a feverish campaign for the Presidency has already got under way.

The Gaullists will probably nominate Georges Pompidou, the real and overwhelming winner of the parliamentary elections last June. Intelligent opportunist M. Giscard d'Estaing, who instinctively parted company with the Gaullist majority at precisely the right moment, has an equal amount of ambition but no prospects.

Were M. Pompidou not to be elected, unrest and temporary instability in France would have to be expected and after 1 July there would have to be fresh elections to the National Assembly, since the present Gaullist majority would have difficulty in working with an opposition President.

France would also be limited for months in its political freedom to manoeuvre. These are not particularly inviting prospects for Europe. The departure from the scene of the old man of Colombey-les-deux-Eglises does anything but give rise to an immediate sigh of relief.

Hermann Bohle

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 April 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

To sign or not to sign the NPT

CHANCELLOR TENDS TO FAVOUR ACCEPTING THE TREATY

After long hesitation and public discussion between the Coalition partners that already smacked of election campaign the non-proliferation treaty has now come before the Cabinet. To sign or not to sign?

The misgivings against signature by this country are grave. According to sources close to Chancellor Kiesinger he tends to favour signing, though only after further diplomatic reconnaissance of the uncertain terrain this country would enter on signing and not immediately.

Foreign Minister Willy Brandt is of the opinion that there can be no further probing of this terrain and that it is fairly safe anyway.

No discrimination

Soviet ambassador Tsarapkin informed the Foreign Minister at the beginning of February that the terms of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty do not discriminate against the Federal Republic and that it, like all other signatories, is covered by the 19 June 1968 resolution of the UN Security Council as regards the threat of nuclear attack. The threat of a non-nuclear attack remains.

The Soviet government was not prepared to give further assurances, particularly where the enemy-state clauses 53 and 107 of the UN Charter as resurrected by *Pravda* are concerned. From these articles a right to intervene against the Federal Republic stems from the four-power Potsdam Agreement.

This country's wish that the Soviet Union declare the Federal Republic, although not a member of the United Nations, a beneficiary of the passage in Article 2 that obliges members to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any country has not been fulfilled.

The Soviet ambassador replied that


DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

this issue was not connected with the non-proliferation treaty and the Soviet Union was not prepared to link irrelevant issues to the treaty.

Foreign Minister Brandt had not in any case seriously expected the Soviet Union to be so forthcoming and there was no question of the Soviet Union expressly and bindingly renouncing any rights it derives from the enemy-state clauses.

This, as far as can be seen at present, is the stage diplomatic exchanges between this country and the Soviet Union on the non-proliferation treaty have now reached and basic changes are hardly to be expected. There has been no clear and reliable solution to the security question.

This country, however, is still shielded by the Atlantic alliance. The United States has declared that any military action taken against the Federal Republic by the Soviet Union, even using the enemy state clause as a pretext, would mean mobilisation of the alliance.

The theoretical question of how this country could defend itself in the event of Nato's demise has been answered by the Foreign Minister on 6 February in *Vorwärts* to the effect that we would then "regain full freedom of action on security matters."

Does this apply to the non-proliferation treaty too? There is certainly no question of nuclear armament but it remains the Foreign Minister's secret whether or not he had in mind the possibility of withdrawing from the treaty under the provisions of Article X.

Regardless whether or not this is the case the non-proliferation treaty represents a deep inroad into the world of nations and international law. It brings about fundamental changes in relations between countries.

For the first time in modern history powers that possess unparallelled weapons and the technology to go with them are trying to end all competition by international agreement and so divide the countries of the world into differing degrees of sovereignty: nuclear and non-nuclear states. The have-nots are called on to submit, in the long run, to the terms of the non-proliferation treaty.

There can be no denying that this is an agreement between unequal parties and in view of the renunciations and ties that bind the have-nots can also be seen as an unfair treaty, an offence against the good manners of the community of nations, as French Defence Minister Pierre Messmer put it to foreign journalists in Paris at the beginning of 1968.

The non-proliferation treaty reduces to a minimum the practical possibilities of gradual integration of Western Europe. At what price would France or Britain be prepared to submit their national nuclear defence forces to European federal command?

American forgetfulness

Maybe the Americans overlooked this side of the coin in negotiations. The Russians will not have done. And what good would a Western European federation be without unrestricted military sovereignty and equal defence prospects for all members?

The economic repercussions of the treaty, which in political terms well deserves the implication of "blocking" inherent in the term "Sperrvertrag," the most usual German name for the non-proliferation agreement, are not altogether clear.

Even so, this country will have no alternative but to sign. It will honour the terms of the treaty in the hope that it is not used against it and others. The distortions in international relations that the treaty could bring about are the sole responsibility of the three countries mainly responsible for drafting the terms of the agreement.

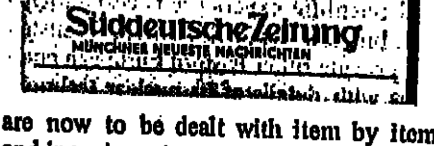
Their policies will decide whether it promotes peace or turns out to be an additional cause of tension and uncertainty, as General de Gaulle forecasts. The practice of the treaty will determine its future.

Lothar Ruehl
(DIE WELT, 23 April 1969)

Russian flexibility at Geneva disarmament conference

Alexei Roshchin, Soviet delegate to the Geneva disarmament conference, has shown signs of flexibility, so much so as to create the impression that progress on disarmament may be made much faster than expected and that the conference need not stop short at diplomatic games of patience.

The Soviet Union has now opened up, as it were, a parcel delivered to Geneva in 1962. Disarmament measures that it used to be prepared only to deal with en bloc


Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

are now to be dealt with item by item and in various stages.

Even so, the contents of the package are the same either way and the 1962 proposals could never have been put into practice all in one; they would have to have been applied stage by stage.

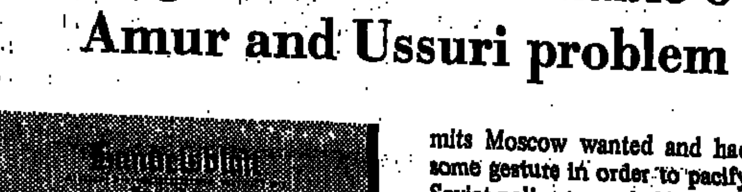
So the difference is not too great and the Americans promptly repeated their original objections to the package when it was still in one piece. What America objects to is the fact that there are tobe no means of inspecting seemingly genuine disarmament measures.

The first item on the Soviet list is a renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons, but as long as the nuclear stockpile does not decrease by a single unit there can be no question of the disarmament the superpowers have expressly undertaken to carry out over and above the non-proliferation treaty and in order to make the treaty more attractive. And does not membership of the United Nations impose a moral obligation not to destroy the world by means of nuclear weapons?

Moscow advocates a declaration of renunciation that would be made ceremonially as a means of improving the atmosphere. The Soviet Union is approaching talks with the United States from a variety of angles. At the same time it is trying to distract attention from other urgent matters. There is more than one reason for this flexibility.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 24 April 1969)

Peking remains inscrutable over Amur and Ussuri problem



Moscow's repeated offer to China of talks on the Amur and Ussuri frontier demarcations has been countered so far by conspicuous silence. The situation remains the same. At any moment new fighting could breakout and crisis in the Far East hit the headlines again. So it seems doubtful whether Moscow's offer to negotiate has been a success.

The Kremlin leaders' readiness to make concessions was no coincidence despite the harsher tones in the Soviet press immediately after the frontier incidents. In view of the Chinese Communist Party congress and the forthcoming Comecon and international Communist summits Moscow wanted and had to make some gesture in order to pacify critics of Soviet policy towards China.

On the one hand Chinese accusations were to be dispelled, no doubt with the intention of bringing influence to bear on the Chinese party congress. On the other the Kremlin can now point to its offer to negotiate in the event of criticism from its own camp.

The Chinese, however, seem to hold a different view. By not responding to the Soviet offer they are making sure that the internal argument over China continues and that the process of division in the Red camp continues to make progress. So Peking's silence is no less dangerous for the Soviet Union than the sound of gunfire on the Ussuri.

(Handelsblatt, 23 April 1969)

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HOME AFFAIRS

More and more demanded of party election candidates

The story of the selection of candidates for the new Bundestag is one of ascent for unknown and descent for known applicants. With a mixture of pride and astonishment Bonn's party leaders are following events week for week at the meetings that decide what candidates will run, directly or on a provincial party ticket.

They are proud because this year it seems to be an open race and they can come up with a few surprises. In the past the selection of candidates was often thought to be manipulated. Devious collusions and a spurious cameraderie were suspected between those who held the reins of power.

The party leaders' dismay springs from the fact that decisions are being made which often run counter to the objectives of party executives. To some extent the rank and file are toying with revolt. In this they are encouraged by the knowledge that the political founder generation of the Federal Republic has reached, with few exceptions, a venerable age.

For this reason alone little can be said against bringing in fresh blood. From Bundestag to Bundestag this process is gaining momentum, all the more so since the gaps which the war caused in the middle-aged group are now everywhere starkly noticeable. In the Heidelberg consituency, for example, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) hoped that New York Consul-General Curtius, 64, could replace 66-year-old Professor Eduard Wahl, who has been a member of the Bundestag since 1949. The delegates, however, decided that it was time for a younger man to be given a chance. They proposed thirty-year-old Peter Milt, one of the managing directors of the Overseas Aid Service.

Little importance is now ascribed to being one of the old garde or to having stored up a wealth of political experience in the course of a few decades. This was brought home most painfully to the chairman of the Bundestag foreign affairs committee Hermann Kopf, who has been a CDU Bundestag member for Freiburg since 1949. Neither his seniority, nor his experience, nor the fact that his candidature was uncontested in five Bundestag elections.

Kopf's rival, 44-year-old City Councillor Hans Otto Evers, received 51 votes to Kopf's 31. A clear defeat for the older man.

The majority of CDU delegates from the Freiburg constituency seem to have caught the new mood. They stressed the advantages for their constituency of Evers' talents and energy at the expense of Kopf's extensive knowledge of foreign affairs but limited knowledge of local problems. They hope that Evers in Bonn will do more for the Freiburg area that is, so to speak, bursting out of its seams.

Social Democrat Annemarie Renger also learned to her regret that accomplishments in local politics and intensive local party activity often count more than success in Bonn. The paradoxical twist in Annemarie Renger's case is that whereas she won her seat in the Bundestag last time via the Schleswig-Holstein party list she is now running for election by pure majority.

The Social Democratic delegates in this region were doubtless better aware of Annemarie's achievements in Bonn than their colleagues earlier in distant Kiel. But Annemarie Renger profited from this no more than she profited from her prominent role on the Bonn scene.

Annemarie Renger, once Kurt Schumacher's private scretary, member of the Bundestag since 1963, member of the Social Democratic parliamentary party executive, was defeated by a Bonn city councillor who is well known to local dignitories but all but unknown to Federal Bonn.

Even Minister of Transport Georg Leber had trouble bagging the nomination for the Frankfurt I constituency. Almost every third established North Rhine Westphalian Bundestag member found himself battling away with newcomers among constituency candidates.

More significant than the defeat of prominent politicians who had little time for local constituency problems, however, is the fact that even deputies who seemed to stand on solid ground at home are fighting for their lives this year. These include Egon Frank, chairman of the Lower Saxony branch of the SPD, and Franz Xaver Unertl, a Christian Social Unionist, both reputedly as sure of their chips on home ground as anyone could be.

Egon Franke found himself grappling with a newcomer whom he just pipped at the post. Unertl won by a slim majority of two votes against a local candidate.

No doubt about it, party members, delegates to nomination conferences, have become more critical and demanding. They are not, of course, abandoning all reserve, but the days are gone when a few influential friends and friendly relations sufficed to push a candidate through.

Following the 1967 Political Parties Act the votes of the "minor" members are again an important factor. The party executive's influence has waned, its recommendations ofter impair candidates' chances rather than enhance them.

Sacrosanct political heritage is being called in question. Expert knowledge and the conviction that a candidate will remain in close contact with his local colleagues and supporters even after moving to Bonn now carry more weight than tradition and seniority. The demand for expert qualifications doubtless also explains the high proportion of university people among the candidates.

Clearly the impression is given, apart from its value as a talking point, that even "non-academic interests" are today best served by people with a sound university education.

Although constituency candidates have not everywhere been selected and the final decision in the case of many list candidates (on which many candidates depend for success in the Bundestag election) has only been taken in relatively few constituency associations, it is estimated that new-comers will represent one quarter to a third of seats to be filled in the coming autumn elections.

The majority of these new-comers will be between 30 and 40. Twenty of the constituency candidates put forward by the CDU are between 35 and 45. The corresponding figure in the SPD is 45 and the FDP 49. Three of the CDU's constituency candidates are between 30 and 35. The SPD is presenting sixteen, the FDP twenty candidates of this age.

Two candidates under thirty are running for the CDU, five for the SPD and six for the FDP. The average age of the Bundestag candidates for the next election is between 30 and 40.

The typical candidate is a graduate, opposed to the party establishment but he knows that his colleagues who vote him in will follow his Bonn career with critical appreciation and will not applaud without reason.

Carl-Christian Kaiser
(DIE ZEIT, 25 April 1969)

FDP struggles to present an alternative programme

Following the West Berlin Christian Democratic Union programme and the Social Democratic policy statement issued at the extraordinary meeting in Bad Godesberg a third programme has now appeared for consideration by this country's electorate.

The Free Democrats have issued a draft of their policy platform for the coming elections. The final decision to produce this is to be taken at a party conference in June. Only with reservations is it possible to speak of marked contrasts between the programmes presented by the various parties.

All three Bundestag parties claim to be modern, progressive and in favour of reform. Since their withdrawal from coalition government two and a half years ago the Free Democrats are more independent but also politically more aggressive. The attitudes they adopt more pronounced than those of the present parties in power in Bonn.

This holds true for the FDP's demand for a "cohesive constitutional reform". Among other things this would give the individual more direct participation in government. It is also suggested that the Federal President should be elected by popular vote.

On the German Question the Free Democrats go further than any of the other parties. The FDP's rejection of the Hallstein Doctrine is more explicit than that of the SPD. The Free Democrat's demand for a "general treaty with the German Democratic Republic", categorically rejected at first by the CDU, has lost some of its sensationalism since the Federal government, in its recent reply to a Bundestag question by the FDP, stated that in principle a treaty with the GDR would be possible.

On the German Question, however, the relentless advances by the FDP leadership towards "political recognition of the GDR" has met with opposition here and there within the party.

The resignation of the three local FDP party members in Lower Saxony so alarmed the party leadership that the section of the party's campaign programme dealing with the German Question was watered down at the last moment.

Fears that a defection of bourgeois voters could be greater than gains from the Left were probably also the reason why party leader Walter Scheel recently ascribed great importance to the fact that the FDP's position is equidistant from the CDU and SPD.

In saying this he endeavoured to blurr the impression, widespread not only in public but also in inner FDP circles, that the FDP, after the elections, would form a coalition at almost any price with the SPD, if both gained sufficient votes to form a majority government.

By remarking that the FDP would prefer to go into opposition again rather than form a government dedicated to an extension of worker participation in management in accordance with unionist policies, Walter Scheel has placed an additional hurdle which will not be easy to surmount in the way of an SPD-FDP coalition

It remains to be seen whether the Free Democratic party conference at the end of June will approve this seemingly uncompromising party programme. It will also be interesting to see where the emphasis is to be made for the elections after the conference, and whether the FDP will present a programme that truly contrasts with that of the other two parties.

W. Neumann
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 23 April 1969)

Geometry lesson

Geometry is the "theory of space and of figures in space, real and possible." Remembering this, it is understandable why Free Democratic party chairman Walter Scheel has positioned his party "in the geometrical centre" between the Christian Democratic Union and the Social Democratic pParty.

Scheel may personally favour a coalition with the Social Democrats, but a strong swing to the right has been noticed in the Hesse FDP. This is bound to check those Free Democrats who courageously set out to review the realities of the European map.

The Free Democrats are still very reticent, however, in the matter of worker participation in management. They are not prepared to go all the way with the Social Democrats in this matter in a possible coalition with that party.

Getting back to geometry — this science also includes trigonometry which "replaces classical constructions with exact mathematical operations." This is the point — the calculation of the election results will determine the FDP's decision between the "real and possible structures".

Herbert Straeten
(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 23 April 1969)

■ POLITICS

Ticklish problems discussed at SPD special meeting

We are a better version of the Christian Democrats" was not, perhaps said in as many words at the recent extraordinary conference of the Social Democrats in Bad Godesberg but it is an unspoken assumption running through the SPD's manifesto.

The Social Democratic election manifesto is a balanced programme in both tone and content and basically represents a continuation of the policies pursued by the present government to which have been added a number of welfare and financial proposals that are anything but revolutionary.

After the conference the image the SPD wants to present to the electorate is more clearly than before that of a party of peace and constant innovation, to quote Gustav Heinemann, Federal President-elect.

The Social Democrats would also like to be seen as the party of economic success and of such outstanding men as Dr Heinemann, Willy Brandt, Karl Schiller and Herbert Wehner, all of whom either are or have served as Ministers in the present Bonn Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats.

It would be incorrect to say that the conference was particularly interesting. The executive gained acceptance for its policy line far more smoothly than had been anticipated.

What the executive wanted was an election conference designed to convey the impression that experienced, successful men, moderate but progressive, not dreamers and dogmaticians but politicians moved by considerations of welfare and practical common sense, were announcing what they intended to do when the next government was formed.

Many trade union delegates and younger members of the party would only too gladly have spoiled this effect. A number of speeches bore witness to the ferment at certain levels of the party.

But in reality the issue had already been decided a day before the conference began. Party chairman Willy Brandt and his lieutenants succeeded by means of arguments that can only be guessed at in dissuading the chairmen of Hesse South and Schleswig-Holstein party regions from calling for recognition of the German Democratic Republic.

In one formula or another concessions were made to them but Brandt and Wehner made sure in advance that the orderly coexistence with the other part of Germany that the executive favours remained below the threshold of legal recognition.

Occasionally, and no doubt with deliberate lack of depth, a problem came to the fore that may well become a vital issue for the new-look Social Democratic Party: relations with the trade unions, which ascribe to themselves major social tasks demanding, for example, to quote one delegate, that power of disposal over the means of production be taken over by the working man, that is the unions.

Day in, day out, Britain's Labour Party is made to feel the differences of opinion between a party in office and organised labour. At Bad Godesberg Willy Brandt only once ran into difficulties when Hesse South region, controlled by trade unionists as it is, insisted on the inclusion of one of its demands in the election manifesto.

Large firms, Hesse South demanded, should be obliged by law to set aside part of their profits as participation capital administered by a fund issuing share certificates with a high welfare bonus for low-income workers. Schiller and Möller, the party's finance experts, were alarmed. Brandt had to assert all his authority to iron out that resolution, which had already been approved.

This episode is only worthy of attention because for a moment or two the curtain was raised and unresolved opposing viewpoints came to light.

The same curtain also conceals the problem of the future development of the trade unions in a society in which white-collar workers will one day outnumber manual workers and tradesmen and the service trades will one day employ more people than industry.

Karl Schiller carefully mentioned this problem when he pointed out, during discussion of worker participation, a topic of which he is hardly enamoured, that consideration should also be given to the growing number of men and women in white coats and the new trades emerging in factories everywhere.

Is the Christian Democratic Union also bearing this change in mind? Will it pay greater attention to it in its election manifesto and in the composition of its leadership? A fair number of CDU Bundestag members have been wondering just this in recent months and they will be wondering even more after the Bad Godesberg SPD conference. The Christian Democrats are not going to have such an easy time in the forthcoming election campaign as they have had in the past.

The CDU's slogan will be detente through security, rather than the SPD's security through detente. Peace policy by all means, the CDU will say, but without illusions. Talks on Germany by all means but no recognition of the German Democratic Republic as a second German state and no acceptance of the Soviet Union's demand for perpetuation of the status quo.

The CDU appears to favour using the word "stability" as a counter to the ferment of the Free Democrats and the hard pressure of the Social Democrats. This country must remain a stable member of the Western alliance while keeping an eye open for detente and industrial and price stability.

Georg Schröder

(DIE WELT, 19 April 1969)

SPD proudly underlines work in Grand Coalition

Only a year has passed between last year's Social Democratic party conference at Nuremberg and this year's at Bad Godesberg but the change that has taken place in the SPD between the two is tremendous.

Impatience and critical reserve in relation to the Grand Coalition remain but visibly contrast with the growing self-confidence the party has gained from the achievements for which it, as a partner in the ruling Bonn coalition, is responsible.

At Nuremberg the party leadership narrowly escaped defeat at the hands of party rank and file who disapproved of the decision to from a coalition with the Christian Democrats.

At Bad Godesberg, in contrast, resolutions calling on the party leadership to make the SPD's decision whether or not to enter a coalition and with whom after the general election this autumn dependent on the outcome of an extraordinary party conference were overwhelmingly defeated.

Karl Schiller's economic policy successes are the more important of the two reasons that probably brought about this change of heart. Economic policy has, above all, played an important part in improving relations between the party leadership and SPD trade union leaders who were the most critical of the Grand Coalition.

The other reason is simply that the life span of the present parliament is nearly over and with it, many hope, that of the Grand Coalition. This hope, it is realised, will only be fulfilled if the SPD increases in strength. Party strategists did not, therefore, need to use too much wizardry to forge an election conference out of what was originally intended to be a conference on electoral reform.

It was apparent that in his closing address Willy Brandt made not a single mention of the Free Democrats. Was he deliberately giving them an easy time? Was he paving the way for a coalition between the two? Maybe.

Parliamentary party chairman Helmut Schmidt, on the other hand, made no bones about likely results of the Free Democrats' recent veer to the left. The FDP, he noted, is not going to gain votes at the expense of the Christian Democrats and is more likely to lose the support of national liberals. Consequently the SPD must, if it wants to form the next government, gain in strength and if at all possible become the strongest party.

Kurt Gehrmann

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 19 April 1969)

Financial reform compromise to be accepted

Bargaining, wrangling and haggling over the new compromise on financial reform has proceeded at a hectic pace over the last four weeks. Following the rejection of the original proposals by the Bundestag on 20 March it was the leaders of the Grand Coalition rather than the reformers who felt obliged to prevent the worst possible outcome, justified accusations that the coalition of Christian and Social Democrats was unable to carry out one of the major tasks it had undertaken to accomplish from coming about.

This disgrace has now been averted. The two major parties can assert with some pride that with the agreement reached by the parliamentary mediation committee on 21 April a major item in the 13 December 1966 policy statement of the Grand Coalition has been dealt with. This represents a significant political success.

Despite the many points the new formula leaves to be desired it is quite satisfactory in detail too. Basically it brings about considerable progress on the main problem, the redistribution of revenue and a better distribution of activities between the Federal government and the states.

Many a temporary solution arrived at over the first two decades of this country's existence in its present form have now been rendered superfluous. The basis for what have often been tough disputes between the so-called poor and rich states has been eliminated.

Financial relations between the two categories are now firmly fixed, the rich states, as it transpires, having to make greater concessions than had been hoped but less than some had feared. Last but not least, local authorities have been partially relieved of their penury.

The man in the street will be little the wiser form the knowledge that corporation and capital gains tax revenue is to be divided between the various authorities. They merley form part of the technicalities of redistribution. But the political significance and benefit of financial reform deserve appreciation in a wider context.

All in all, the reform amounts to an increase in Federal government responsibilities. This is not immediately evident from the wording of the changes. The Federal government has not emerged with a direct and measurable increase in power in relation to state federalism.

Even so, there is no mistaking the fact that the Federal government can, under the general heading of "joint activities," transcend the strict boundaries delimited by federal structure to a much greater extent than before.

What are described in the proposed amendment to Basic Law as joint tasks of the Federal government and the states in, for instance, the extension of existing and the construction of new university facilities, regional development, urban renewal and career training represent in practice wide Federal government inroads into what used to be considered inviolable state preserves.

When the financial reform has been implemented the Federal government will be active in spheres where fifteen years ago it had no influence and its presence was felt to be undesirable. To this extent financial reform represents a psychological victory over what is sometimes bizarre federalism.

Whether the new state of affaires will prove sufficient to smooth the path of industrial society into the twenty-first century remains to be seen. Despite the reform much of the nineteenth-century structure has been retained. But what has been achieved will make possible a more impartial investigation of remaining inadequacies.

At least financial reform has not blocked the road to a conceivable administrative reform. If anything it has smoothed the path to this as yet distant goal.

Robert Schmelzer

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 22 April 1969)

■ LABOUR RELATIONS

Hans Katzer's labour bill gains wider acceptance

At first they were all against it. In rare accord, employers, employees and trade unions rejected Labour Minister Hans Katzer's labour promotion Bill. After the 1966-67 crisis, Hans Katzer decided the time had come to do something about the "weak links" on the labour market – elderly people, unskilled workers and, of course, the unemployed.

The Bill suggested that these people should receive assistance in the form of retraining grants and the like. Adequate assistance in other ways should also be given to workers if they show a desire to learn and are willing to travel.

This is where the trouble began. A survey conducted by the Wema Institute in Cologne showed that in this country employees (particularly manual workers) are very conservative when it comes to changing jobs. Above all else they are loyal to their employers and their work.

The difficulties in the way of the Minister of Labour's Bill on employment opportunities lie not so much in the Bill itself as in the familiar matter of who is going to raise the necessary cash. Hans Katzer was thinking of the Federal Agency for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance. This institution was not exactly overjoyed at this news and suggested in turn that the expense involved should be covered by the Federal budget or by contributions from industry.

To this, needless to say, the employers' unions also turned a deaf ear. A quiet but bitter tug of war over the Bill began behind the scenes.

This was last autumn. Meanwhile, all concerned have reached a compromise with which no side is happy, but the chances are that the Bill will still be passed by this Bundestag. The details of the new scheme will not be made known until the Bill has been put to the vote.

The authorities in Nuremberg were adamantly opposed up to the very end to Paragraph 215 of Katzer's Bill. According to this clause the Nuremberg agency is to continue to build up reserves from surplus revenue which in times of crisis, as in 1966-67, would help to bridge dangerous gaps on the labour market. These reserves would be invested at a profit.

A portion of these reserves, however, and this is the snag, "is to be invested in such a way that the funds can be realised within two years. At least two thirds of this pool are to be invested in securities, pending the agreement of the Bundesbank."

In Nuremberg, it is feared that the existence of these reserves and the new investment regulations will encroach upon the institution's management of its own affairs, causing its working capital to be soon exhausted. For its part the legislature, in making this proposal, was probably thinking of the memorable "Sabel tower", of the times when the Nuremberg agency had amassed over 6,000 million Marks. Anton Sabel was Josef Stingl's predecessor as president of the Nuremberg institution.

How ever the programme will be eventually financed, it is sure to be launched. Very few are now seriously opposing it.

On closer examination, the Bill in its present form make some sound proposals. Its value is enhanced by the fact that it is mainly concerned with professional adjustment of employees to the ever-changing technological conditions of economic life

That is to say, it is less concerned with unemployment aids than with with the means of preventing unemployment. For this reason alone the Bill is more than welcome. Time will tell whether it will serve its purpose as well and for as long as the first laws of its kind passed in 1927.

The new Bill is really based on the 1927 Labour Exchange and Unimployment Insurance Act. Its novel features are:

Extensive professional advice for employees.

Employees are entitled to demand adequate maintenance while participating in retraining courses.

Companies employing mentally or physically disabled people will continue to receive grants if these are used for the benefit of these people.

Self-employed people will be elligible to receive loans from the unemployment insurance fund to further their professional ambitions.

Elderly employees are to receive grants of up to fifty per cent of their earnings so that in the event of being dismissed they can more quickly find alternative employment. The grants need not be repaid within a certain period.

Wage bonuses in various sectors are to compensate for seasonal losses (for example, in the building sector in winter).

The new scheme therefore is to benefit not only workers but also self-employed people who have professionally lagged behind general economic and technological standards. Much of the Bill is devoted to the difficulties encountered by elderly people. These were indeed badly in need of assistance.

Three-quarters of all unemployed men in the Federal Republic are aged between 55 and 65. Finding jobs for them is difficult since most personnel managers are naturally on the look-out for young people with a dynamic future.

New opportunities are being sought for young and old. It remains to be seen whether many of those who are not happy in their jobs will muster the energy and the courage to venture into new fields, attend courses and perhaps even change their place of residence for professional advantage

In this respect, the working community of the Federal Republic is somewhat lethargic, and to shake the slow of mind into a keener awareness of the times the Ministry of Labour and the Nuremberg experts have planned a few stimulants that may do the trick. One such is the mobile exhibition on professional opportunities. Television, of course, is being used as a medium of communication. Meetings are being arranged and lots of brochures distributed.

If all these efforts bear fruit, we will soon be a nation of learners and teachers. It may soon be a matter of course for people to have two professions. It remains to be asked whether this whirlwind technical age can be mastered in any other way.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 20 April 1969)

More jobs than unemployed

Portents on the labour market suggest that the economy will continue to develop at a steady rate in the months ahead. Workers are again in demand in the Federal Republic.

Almost 720,000 vacancies are reported, 75 per cent more than in the same period of last year. Unemployment has reached 243,200 - 181,600 men and 61,600 women. In March, the number of unemployed fell by 130,900, or roughly 35 per cent.

The latest unemployment rate is about 216,600 or 47 per cent lower than last year. At the end of March it was estimated at 1.2 per cent – 1.3 per cent of men and 0.9 per cent of women.

Full employment therefore is again in the offing a situation similar to that which prevailed during the 1965-66 boom, Many firms have again introduced special shifts and overtime is constantly in demand.

In the opinion of the Federal labour agency in Nuremberg, the high number of vacancies is a clear indication that orders will be placed well in advance this year and for this reason many companies will also revert to "hoarding" workers. Which means that although orders have not yet reached their speak, labour is already being solicited in expection of the boom.

Following the strong trend in the economy, the country's complement of foreign labourers is increasing steadily. By the end of March their numbers had climbed to 1,233,000, of whom thirty per cent are woman.

Latest figures show that the number of foreign workers is 282,500 higher than at the turn of the year, and only 81,000 less than the July peak in 1966. In Nuremberg, it is believed that the 1966 figure will be exceeded during the next weeks and months.

The highest increase since January of this year was noted in the number of Italians and Yugoslavs.

The effects of the organisational crisis in the coal-mining sector have been mitigated meanwhile. The number of unemployed men from the mines of North Rhine Westphalia was given as 11,200 at the end of the march, as compared with 16,200 last year.

Unemployed seems to be concentrated in the building sector. The second blackest category is that of unskilled labourers.

Only 22,000 unemployed are listed in the metalworking sector, 63 per cent less than at the end of March.

More part-time and home occupations are again being advertised. Companies are also again more willing to employ elderly people, according to the labour offices.

(WELT DER ARBEIT, 18 April 1969)

18,000 disabled need jobs

Some 6,000 mentally and physically handicapped people are at present employed in 140 special workshops throughout the country. These workshops have set themselves the task of preparing disabled people for the general labour market. If this is not possible, steady employment is made available in the workshops.

Despite the great efforts of the *Lebenshilfe* organisation in the last five or six years, the workshops cannot cope with the numbers of disabled people



seeking employment. It is essential therefore that existing factories should be extended and new ones built.

The provision of new jobs for the disabled –18,000 are on the list – will only be possible, however, when these workshops and factories are recognised as proper enterprises not only by the welfare but also by the labour authorities.

Lebenshilfe spokesmen are therefore demanding that the workshops be incorporated into the development programme of the Federal Agency for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance. With the support of this institution new workshops could be built and existing facilities greatly extended and renewed.

(Hannoversche Presse, 12 April 1969)

Union suggests 37½-hour week

For the first time in the Federal Republic a trade union has suggested an under forty-hour week. At a union meeting in Hamburg it was proposed that workers in the cigarette industry should work a 37-and-a-half-hour instead of a forty hour week.

The cigarette industry employs 17,000 people.

(DIE WELT, 22 April 1969)

Retirement at 60 proposed

Werner Figgen, Social Democratic Minister of Labour in North Rhine–Westphalia, has proposed reducing the retirement age from 65 to sixty.

Speaking at a meeting of the Protestant worker's league in Oberhausen, Herr Figgen said the employees should be given the opportunity to apply for a pension at the age of sixty. Applicants must have contributed for 25 years to a compulsory insurance fund. The present pensionable age is 65 and pensioners must have paid into the fund at least fifteen years.

Herr Figgen drew attention to similar conditions in the European Economic Community.

(DIE WELT, 21 April 1969)

THINGS SEEN

Surrealist exhibition in Hamburg

Hamburg's Kunstverein offers Sigmund Freud's successors rich material for psychological interpretation. Strange mythical figures and nocturnal shapes, a maze of entwinements and grinning skulls, cover the walls on paper, cardboard, canvas and wood. Visions, dreams, associations and hallucinations.

Forty-five years after the appearance of the *Manifeste du Surrealisme* written by André Breton, the Kunstverein presents an impressive display of surrealistic art as part of its series of retrostepctives on the great art movements of this century.

The exhibition, which will be open until 26 May, is among the major events of its kind now being held in the Federal Republic. Dr Hans Platte, who organised it, spent a year seeking out a representative collection of examples of this art form in Europe.

Thanks to his tireless scouting and "begging" 129 works were assembled. Of these about 110, now worth millions, are hung in the Kunstverein's bungalow near the Ferdinandstor Platz in Hamburg.

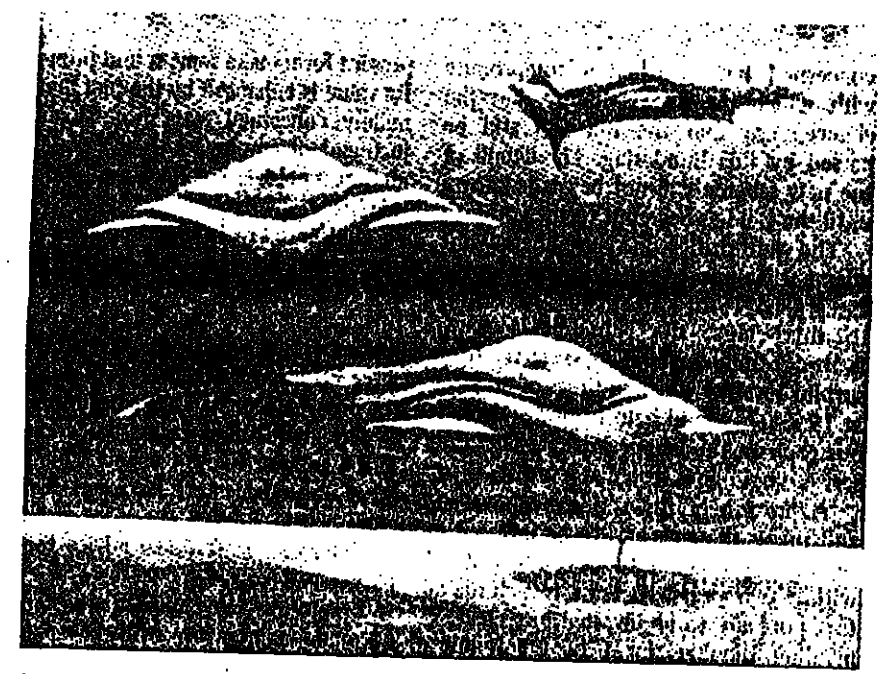
Experts in this artistic field will soon realise that the collection is not quite complete. Dr Platte would have liked to include, say, Leonora Carrington, Meret Oppenheim and Man Ray in the exhibition, but for technical reasons works of these artists could be not procured.

Still, as it stands the display is a long way towards being truly representative of surrealist art. The catalogue of over thirty artists, ranging from Remy van den Abeele to Unica Zürn, marks all the main – milestones in the development of this genre since 1924. Richard Oelze's was the most topical contribution. His *Tell einer Ebene* is dated 1969.

Pointing the way to the main exhibition is a small selection of anticipatory works from an earlier age. Guiseppe de Archimboldi (1527-1593) and Monsu Desiderio (17th centrury) are presented as forerunners of surrealism.

Also represented are Johann Heinrich and Gustave Moreau. Typical works of Caspar David Friedrich and Arnold Böcklin were not available for the exhibition. Their places were taken by Hans Arp, Giorgio de Chirico and Francis Picabia, the prominent initiators of this movement.

Sigmund Freud based his theories on the existence of an independent subconscious life in the mind. Breton in his first manifesto declared, "I believe in the future resolution of these seemingly conflicting states, dream and reality, in a kind of absolute reality, of *surrealite*..."



'Les Démoralisateurs' by Felix Labisse done in 1964 (Photo: Katalog)

Among artists Breton's ideas were given various interpretations. Max Ernst, Yves Tanguy and Salvador Dali were foremost among these interpreters of verist surrealism transmuting existing objects into absurd dream-pictures. Joan Miro and Andre Masson belong to the more abstract group of surrealistic artists. However incomplete many may consider the Hamburg collection to be, it gives a generous sampling of the really great productions of this genre.

This is especially true of Max Ernst nine of whose works are shown, including the ghostly dance *Blauer und rosa Tauben* and *Dunkle Götter*, finished in 1957, a deep blue composition out of which the eyes of weird beaked creatures protrude like lighting torches.

Beside this hang three pictures by Dali. The centrepiece is one of the major acquisitions of the Paris National Museum: *Six Appearances of Lenin on a Piano*. Yves Tanguy, represented by seven works, moves into unexplored regions with fabulous creatures and plants.

The sample of Miro's art is scanty in comparison. Dr Platte succeeded in soliciting only three works. The Miro exhibition now on in Munich could not have come at a worse time for Hamburg, as far as this artist is concerned. Nevertheless, these three pictures are an opportunity to study the naive, boisterous hieroglyphs of the Spaniard and to guess their meaning.

Masson is in quite a different category. His pictures are like a scream from wide-open mouths.

Around these are grouped the others. Rene Margritte and Pierre Roy demonstrate the fluid limits of surrealistic art. Their compositions are closely related to pittura metafisica. They could just as well hang in a display of magical realism.

Paul Delvaux strikes a macabre note with his skeletal paintings. In comparison Friedrich Schröder-Sonnenstern engages in absurd games with his *Klubwappen der Leerlaufredner*. Felix Labisse draws an assortment of slippery fish from between female thighs.

Rudolf Hänsel

(Kieler Nachrichten, 15 April 1969)

John Whitney's computerised colour films

Is the kinetic graphic work of the American artist, John Whitney, clever experimentation, or does it really open the way to a new art form? This seems to be the general query at a showing of Whitney's colour films in Hamburg's Kunsthaus. The films were made with the aid of computers.

The showing was arranged by IBM in conjunction with the Hamburg School of Graphic Art.

Art from the computer is nothing new. Computers can compose music, prepare sketches and even dabble in poetry – provided of course that in each case they have been suitably programmed beforehand. In the final analysis, however, Whitney's graphic work is mobile, not static. He is concerned with the exposition of interaction and for this he needs an optical indicator in the form of a screen.

Most children are familiar with kaleidoscopes which when turned or shaken show an ever-changing pattern of forms within certain limits. The viewer cannot bring his imagination or inventiveness to bear on this pattern since the same formal structures always recur.

This is not the case with Whitney. He shows that in time circles become ellipses, parabolas become hyperbolas, lines become rosettes, objects become planes, points become circles. Figures revolve, topple, increase or decrease in size.

It almost seems as though these transformations came about on their own. But they are really the electronically calculated result of a complicated trigonometrical sine theorem.

Whitney himself constructed the first device with which he showed his film *Catalogue*, an accumulation of forms produced with the aid of computers to IBM in New York. IBM were so impressed that they offered Whitney a research contract in the field of computerised graphics.

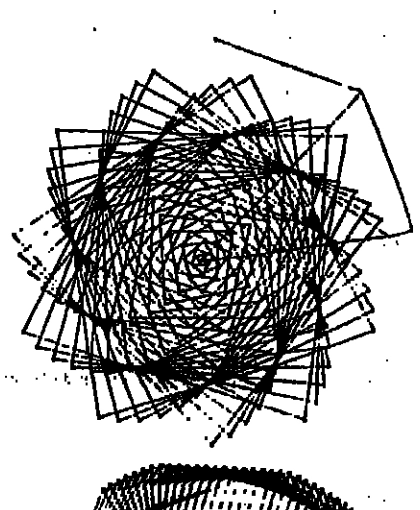
The progress Whitney has made in his experiments can be seen in his film *Permutations*, offering a limitless variety of interchangeable formal elements with new effects. "Here we are concerned with balance and contrasts, with tensions and resolutions – all in elegant interplay. My work touches on central problems of all creative activity," said John Whitney.

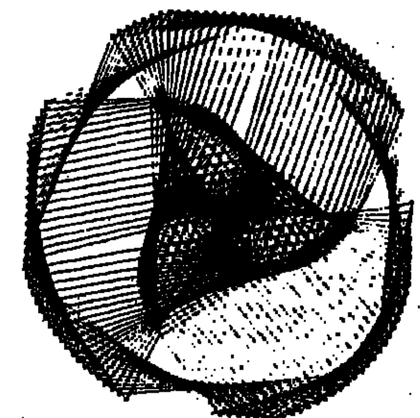
The computer does not function autonomously. For Whitney it is a "tool for the creation of new art forms as intimations of future events."

What Whitney said at the end of the showing speaks for his technical and artistic idealism: "I want to see the day when such graphics are a regular part of daily television programmes."

Christian Otto Frenzel

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 14 April 1969)





Two computer drawings by John Whitney (Photos: IBM)

Early Italian art catalogue prepared in West Berlin

After thirty years of preparation sections of a comprehensive catalogue of old Italian drawings, a major undertaking of Federal Republic art historians, are about to appear. Under the general title *Corpus der italienischen Zeichnungen von 1300 bis 1450*, the catalogue, published by the Verlag Gebrüder Mann in West Berlin, comprises three sections the first of which has now appeared in four volumes.

The catalogue is financed by the Federal Republic Research Society. It is edited by Dr Bernhard Degenhart, curator of Munich's collection of graphic art, and Dr Annegrit Schmitt.

The first four volumes containing drawings from central and southern Italy comprise 700 pages of text, 450 plates and 2,600 illustrations. For the first time separate drawings and illustrative book drawings are given in their chronological order.

The second section comprises six volumes containing drawings from northern Italy from 1300 to 1450. The third section is devoted to pre-1300 Italian graphic art.

The editors spent three years collecting material in libraries, museums and private collections in Europe and America. (DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 13 April 1969)



LITERATURE

Literary conference at Lake Constance

One is tempted to write a slightly frivolous report on the 10th Constance Literary Conference which was held at the fashionable Insel Hotel on 10 and 11 April.

The theme of the conference was pompous and pretty generalised: the Federal Republic booksellers' association chose the subject, "The book trade and society – today and tomorrow" and invited publishers, authors, critics and journalists to attend the discussions.

The discussion remained on a generalised level although specific viewpoints were put forward in the talks by Professor Gerd Kadelbach of the Hesse Radio education department and by Friedrich Land of IBM Austria.

Professor Kadelbach talked about "Information, individuation and the book" and with enlightened pathos outlined a monstrous educational structure, a socio-dramatic apparatus consisting of educational methods which should replace traditional channels of information and education which rely chiefly on books and individual reading.

In his opinion, education should be imparted through a montage of media: possibly there would still be room for lectures but the main emphasis would be on study groups, radio features, television programmes, films, language laboratories and last but not least – getting back to the subject under discussion again – on books.

However, books would no longer be the central medium and should be presented in a special form: varying opinions should be presented simultaneously and the person who is being educated should thus be able to obtain a maximum of information and at the same time form his own views. In addition, books should provide the background to the educational montage and fill in the gaps which are bound to arise in the montage because of the selective principle.

In the end Kadelbach's "didactic montage with multi-medial inter-connections" is intended to produce not a sensitive soul but a well-informed, articulate individual who is not afraid to take action, a person who no longer accepts unquestioningly everything he hears or reads but takes in information sceptically, controls it by checking the facts, cogitates, but above all a person who has learnt how to learn and has adapted to the explosion of information.

At this point Kadelbach's utopian, educational day-dreaming had something in common with Lang's considerably more down-to-earth talk on "Automation and the book." Lang is a specialist in information deduction systems – this designation immediately indicates a different approach, a kind of IBM information storm.

If in a few years time it will be possible to store 100,000 bits of information in one cubic centimetre of electronic storage space. What is the pont of comprehensive but unwieldy books as sources of information? In future will the book trade chiefly fill the role of an information bank?

Or – not looking so far ahead – if time and money are wasted by the trade, researchers and administrative bodies by duplicating work on the same problem or when searching for literature on a particular topic, how can the existing information be obtained more quickly and more systematically?

At any rate, for the time being and for the immediate future academic literature should adhere to certain norms as regards both language and external form so that a standard book provides basic information in a standard language: a book with 415 pages, forty lines per page and sixty characters per line with a classification number roughly indicating its content and a national or international standard book number (on an analogy with the Library of Congress Catalogue number) would facilitate finding the title, ordering and evaluating the book and mechanical reading.

This suggestion will be welcomed by anyone who has lost his way searching through the hand-written bibliographical folios of libraries in this country, or whose order form has been sent from one library to another for weeks on end because one library does not know what another has in stock. The "advance into the world of information" which Lang talked about and which is often so problematic at present would become a pleasurable leap into the universe of knowledge.

Thoroughly serious matters were discussed at the Constance conference, so why should the occasion be treated frivolously? Because Professor Kadelbach's pedagogic vision was too fanciful and naive (if a person has three pieces of information relating to one fact, three opinions on one fact, then he is not necessanly in a position to come up with the fourth, correct opinion especially if this implies a value judgement) and because the publishers were not able or willing to consider Lang's demands.

Kadelbach's educational eclecticism – a little bit of everything so that the product is what is really the prerequisite, namely an articulate person – largely ignored the central problems of education and this vagueness was hardly dispersed through precise questions during Friday's discussion.

One bookseller objected to Lang's computer thinking and stressed the importance of "esprit, grace, charm and humour" which did not exactly help to make the discussion more fruitful. The whole conference was rather like an optional extra which no one took very seriously.

One report described Kadelbach's talk as pretty radical because with gentle irony he referred to "the good, the true and the beautiful." Oh yes. The good, the true and the beautiful still exist – if not in books, then in nature. The weather was good and it is true that Lake Constance on a sunny April day is beautiful.

Jörg Drews

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 April 1969)

Brecht's plays at top of performance table

During the 1967/68 season Bertold Brecht was the second most-performed playwright in the Federal Republic. Statistics published by the *Freie Volksbühne* in West Berlin indicate that performances of Shakespeare still head the list but Schiller, Shaw, Goethe and Sartre have been overtaken by Brecht.

During the season 24 Brecht plays were performed, 71 productions were staged and 1,352 performances given. The most popular work was *Mutter Courage* (Mother Courage): 164 performances at nine theatres. The *Dreigroschenoper* (Treepenny Opera) clocked up 161 performances at seven theatres.

These were followed by *Furcht und Elend des Dritten Reiches* (Fear and misery of the Third Reich) – 152 performances – and *Schwejk im zweiten Weltkrieg* (Schweik in the Second World War) with 113 performances.

Trommeln in der Nacht (Drums in the Night) and *Im Dickicht der Städte* (Jungle of the Cities), two early Brecht works which are being staged at several theatres during the current season, were given ten and twenty performances respectively.

(Hannoversche Presse, 15 April 1969)

Theatre in the theatre against theatre

Theatre within the theatre against the theatre – to be more precise against the institution of the theatre – was recently staged by a group of mainly young actors in Bremen. And the theatre, that is the institution to which the participants were objecting, made the theatre available to them for the occasion.

Thus – and only thus – the actors were able to present a late-night performance of Aristophanes'*Ecclesiazusae* (Women in Parliament) in a new translation by Claus Bremer in their own way.

In this instance "their own way" meant that the play was not actually produced but evolved by a production group in endless discussions and only unanimous decisions were allowed to stand. The result was that the play was not acted but read.

The audience read the play as well, for at the beginning of the proceedings each person was given a copy of the text. So it did not matter that the conclusion envisaged by Aristophanes was omitted. The young actor Michael König – a brilliant Posa in *Don Carlos* - remarked to the spectators, who were sitting on hard wooden benches on four sides of the acting area, "You can read the end for yourselves".

By this time, if not before, everyone in the audience realised that *Ecclesiazusae* was only a platform for at times harsh criticism of the state, society and above all of the theatre as an institution which imposes a double burden on the actor who is merely material for the producer and within which every working relationship is a dependent relationship. Finally, it was stated that " those who create theatre do not determine what the theatre creates."

The much criticised instution reacted calmly, even humourously in the person of Kurt Hübner, the director of Bremen theatre, who is in fact considered to be modern and progressive. At one point, amidst laughter from the audience, he commented, "That is absolute nonsense" – in the end everyone in the audience was allowed to join in the discussion and at times participate in the play – but he had, after all, agreed to the event being held.

This was certainly the extraordinary aspect of this unusual evening. At this particular theatre which coined the phrase "Bremen style," which has attracted attention because of its avant garde productions and which has dared to stage compelling experimental works, artists are now rebelling against the institution of the theatre

They can only do this because the institution in which and from which they live allows them the opportunity to do so. None of them want to give up the theatre. With the exception of one person, opera producer Rolf Becker who was one of the initiators of the late-night event.

He is leaving of his own free will before the termination of his contract so as to work independently on productions like *Ecclesiazusae*. But this presupposes that he will find other like-minded colleagues and that every now and then he can make use of the institution – by working as a guest producer, for example. for he must live, and living costs money.

(Telegraf, 11 April 1969)

Hegel's 200th anniversary

The International Association for Promoting the Study of Hegelian Philosophy has accepted responsibility for the acadamic side of a jubilee congress which the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and the city of Stuttgart are organising next year in Stuttgart.

Hegel's 200th birthday is on 27 August next year. The congress will last from 12 to 15 July. The city of Stuttgart has decided to establish a Hegel Prize for outstanding achievements in the arts and the prize will be awarded for the first time at the jubilee.

The National Schiller Museum is planning a Hegel exhibition which will be linked with the Hölderlin exhibition on show at the same time. The aim of the congress will be to re-examine the relationship of speculative philosophy to the empirical sciences, which is overshadowed by numerous prejudices, and to analyse the influence of Hegelian thinking on philosophical trends of the present day. A concluding discussion by experts will particularly emphasise this subject.

In order to make more people aware of Hegel's significance, a preparatory series of evening lectures are to be held mainly in Stuttgart and in Hegel's Swabian hometown to which wider sections of the public will be invited.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 11 April 1969)

■ EDUCATION

Hamburg authorities propose dynamic university reform

From 1 May this year new legislation will apply to Hamburg University. Preliminary discussions on the university legislation began eight years ago; the current law dates from war because of National Socialist tendencies.

After repeated amendments and protracted preparations the bill introduced by the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the governing party in Hamburg, is to be presented to the city's parliament in the immediate future and should be the first new university law to be passed in the Federal Republic.

The bill envisages a presidential constitution, does away with associate professors, replaces faculties by departments, limits university autonomy and grants students considerable participation.

The clear majority in the Hamburg parliament (SPD 74 seats with opposition parties, Christian Democratic Union (CDU) 38 seats and Free Democratic Party (FDP) 8 seats) means that it is very unlikely that this bill will be rejected or even modified, although not all Hamburg's Social Democrats are utterly delighted with its comprehensive nature.

Dr Walter Tormin, the university expert of the Hamburg SPD, has described the bill as "Europe's most advanced university legislation" which will initiate "thorough reforms of structure and constitution." But the CDU and FDP, both of which had submitted their own bills, have frankly indicated that they will not support the SPD bill. The CDU whose own bill was accepted by students as a "constructive contribution" has even stated that it will fight the bill with all parliamentarian and democratic means.

The student union which has a left-wing majority owing to abstensions – only 46 per cent of the students voted in the mid-January elections – has described the bill as utterly inadequate: "The senate wants to turn the university into a gymnasium governed by Prussian regulations."

As well as demanding "absolute and unlimited power of decision for students as regards teaching, research and the distribution of funds," the union predicted a "hot summer semester." But the large majority of Hamburg students do not share the union's views. They either ignore the new bill completely or regard it as a basis for modern working methods.

So it is against this background that the new Hamburg university legislation is to be passed. In detail, the bill contains the following proposals: a president, instead of a vice-chancellor, would head the university.

The bill envisages that the president, who as a rule would hold office for nine years, would be responsible for internal discipline and would lead the university administration. However, he would be bound by the decisions of the academic senate in respect of matters concerning university self-administration.

Despite all statements to the contrary, university autonomy is to be considerably limited. As regards finances the university would only have the right to put forward suggestions. Moreover, state authorities would be allowed to intervene if they thought the university was not fulfilling its obligations.

Associate professors will no longer exist and the difference between ordinary and extraordinary professors will also be eliminated. Faculties will be replaced by departments which will draw up curricula for at least two semesters at a time.

The teaching staff is to be organised in only four groups, namely professors and lecturers – who will be collectively termed university teachers – academic assistants and academics who are not mainly employed at the university. None of these groups is to have a majority on university administrative bodies.

The university council will be made up on the basis of a modified triple party: forty professors, twenty lecturers, twenty academic assistants, forty students and ten representatives of the administration.

The council, which is to be elected on 1 May, must be convened if fifty members demand a meeting. Thirty members can demand that a particular topic be discussed. The council can demand the dismissal of the university president if a 75 per cent majority is obtained.

The academic senate, which will be responsible for decisions relating to academic matters, structure and development plans and will appoint specialised committees, will be made up of the president as chairman, eight professors, four lecturers, four academic assistants and four students.

The new law will eliminate the directorial principle which has been valid up to now. In future the institute or hospital council will represent academic institutions and these councils will elect a managing director for a limited period of office from the circle of professors and senior doctors. Professors, lecturers, assistants and students will be represented on the institute councils in the ratio 3:1:1:1.

The bill also proposes that in future vacant professorial chairs should be publicly advertised. More emphasis than hitherto is to be placed on the practical teaching abilities of university staff.

As fas as possible, the new bill is also intended to stimulate the reform of university courses which all those concerned regard as an urgent necessity. Examination regulations need to be reformed, courses need to be tightened up and essential studies stressed. It should be possible for students to take just part of the final examinations.

Disciplinary measures against students envisaged in the new bill range from reprimands to expulsion. The disciplinary committee is to consist of an official mediator, a representative of the teaching staff and one student. If one of these groups boycotts the disciplinary committee, then the official mediator would be responsible for making a decision.

So much for the most important clauses of Hamburg's new university bill. An SPD spokeman commented. "Who thinks that we have devised a compromise acceptable to all university groups. It is in the nature of a compromise that no one expresses unqualified approval."

Indeed, the Hamburg law does not go as far as the university reforms passed by the French National Assembly with a record majority, which is thought to be unique in Europe as it grants the universities complete autonomy and equal representation of all groups on all administrative bodies. But if one of the characteristics of a good compromise is that no one accepts it wholeheartedly, then the Hamburg bill is good and opens up great opportunities if the possiblities now available are exploited.

(Handelsblatt, 11 April 1969)

Revised courses at design college

Courses in industrial design at the Hamburg college of plastic arts are to be reorganised. Last summer Swiss Professor, Walter Schaer, was appointed director of the institute. Within the framework of the complete reorganisation of the college, Professor Schaer, wants to develop the institute into a separate department. with corresponding workshops for wood, textiles, ceramics, synthetic materials, paper, metal and weaving. Each studio would be under the direction of a professor or lecturer. Students would participate in the running of the studios.

The whole course lasts twelve semesters. After eight semesters of practical and theoretical training students will be offered a certificate, if they have passed their exams, qualifying them to work as independent industrial designers.

After twelve semesters and after the completion of a thesis, a diploma is awarded which entitles graduates to call themselves "Dip. Eng. Design."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 April 1969)

New journal for educationalists



The Education Seminar and Institute for Pedagogic Research established at Giessen University in 1961 and directed by Professor Hans Mieskes has just published the first edition of *Berichte – Gedanken – Mitteilungen* (Reports – thoughts – information).

It provides detailed reports on the structure and organisation of the institute, on the specialised library and on institutions for empirical research and diagnostic and therapeutic experiments. Graduates and students will also have the opportunity to express their views in this publication which will appear twice anually.

As Professor Mieskes emphasises, up to now educationalists have lacked a medium for exchanging information between the numerous teaching and research institutions. The specialised magazines could scarcely fulfill this task.

And so education institutes at universities, for instance, know too little about the various structures, working methods, permanent research projects and so forth. But it must be in the interests of educational theory, which is a young science, for the mutual exchange of infromation to function as efficiently as possible.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 April 1969)

■ MEDICINE

Biological research increases chances of greater life expectancy



Anyone who survives the next fifteen years has a good chance of achieving an average life expectancy of 85, thanks to medical intervention in the biological ageing processes.

By the year 1985 transplants of human and animal organs will be routine operations whose success is not jeopardised by immunity reactions on the part of the recipient organism; at present doctors still fear these reactions. But by 1985 medical science will have learnt how such risks can be safely eliminated.

By the same date artificial organs and biological systems will also be available which will not even involve immunological problems. Synthetic substances and electronic components will replace natural tissue and its functions.

Are such predictions mere utopian notions, the products of an imagination which has lost touch with reality? Futurologists – who study future developments scientifically – definitely reject such suspicions.

They can easily demonstrate that their prognoses are always based on facts, but they have the courage not to regard these facts as inflexible but as transitional stages in a far-reaching development process.

It is interesting to note that up to now the futurological problems of medicine have been almost exclusively investigated by non-medical men, by sociologists for example or engineers, physicists and military scientists.

Recently, however, Professor E. H. Graul and Dr H. W. Franke (Marburg University institute of radiobiology and the medical application of isotopes) have evaluated the results of questionnaires, conferences and publications dealing with the future of medicine to find out what awaits mankind in the year 1985, 1990 or 2000. This article began by discussing the future prospects of organ transplants and the replacement of organs, but this is only one small aspect of the future of medical science

It is probable that by 1985 it will be possible to regulate biological ageing processes so that the average life expectancy will be 85. This would mean that older people would automatically enjoy a better social position than society grants them today.

Two possibilities which will contribute towards this higher life expectancy are that an effective cancer cure will probably be developed and the fight against infectious diseases will no longer present a problem.

Instead, typical "civilisation" illnesses will be more prevalent, especially cardiac and circulatory complaints; mental disturbances which are already common enough will also be widespread.

In fact, the mind will be the part of the body subject to most stress; boredom will be a major evil, the suppression of spiritual and moral values through uninhibited hedonism could be a fatal danger in the long term.

To a greater extent that at present it will be up to the woman, rather that the man, to take erotic initiatives and medicines which reduce inhibitions and produce a euphoric state removed from reality will be found in family medicine-chests. Under such circumstances crass egotism will obviously be trumps.

By the mid 1980s medicine will involve delaying the menopause, producing primitive forms of artificial life, increasing use of the computer for medical diagnosis and also a significant advance in biomedical electronics with radar devices for blind people and artificial limbs with servomechanisms or electronic functions

All in all the possibilities which are likely to arise before this point is reached are neither depressing nor rosy; immediate developments seem to be steering a rational middle course between good and evil. In future medicine will be able to help many people in need of treatment more effectively than is possible today. There is a risk that these new opportunities will be misused – but this has always been the case.

Finally, a glance at the year 2000: by the end of the next three decades futurologists expect more intensified breeding of plants and animals, the freezing of human beings for hours or days at a time, the correction of hereditary defects, genetic manipulation of plants and animals, simple and cheap contraceptive devices, better treatment for psychiatric illnesses, general biochemical immunisation against most diseases, chemical substances to raise the level of intelligence, drugs to control mental make-up and to change the personality or regulation of an organism through electrical impulses sent to the brain

These are only isolated points, some are aspects of a picture which still frightens some people. But mankind is certainly used to living with horror and will, therefore, probably be able to adapt to a future the outlines of which are already predictable.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 15 April 1969)

Educational films on the care and treatment of diabetes

Within two years the pharmaceutical industry has produced three scientific and educational films on diabetes mellitus. The first two were commissioned by Hoechst and made at the Leonaris-Film Georg Munck KG studios. The third film was produced by Norman P. Schenker (Munich) at the request of Boehringer-Mannheim.

This film was recently premiered at the West Berlin *Kongress-Halle*. Professor Rachmiel Levine of the Medical college, New York, gave the official address. Levine is regarded as the world's leading diabetes expert and he was scientific adviser for all three films.

Professor Ernst Fromm, president of the Federal Republic doctor's association, said that expensive films intended to assist advanced medical training were the best form of advertising which the pharmaceutical industry could employ for promoting its products.

Although Boehringer-Mannheim has made a significant contribution towards the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes, the firm's own products are not mentioned by name in the latest film *Diabetes – Konzept und Praxis*. Independent scientists from this country, France, Britain and the United States collaborated on the screenplay.

The second diabetes film by Georg Munck compares the varying views of distinguished diabetes experts from all parts of the world so as to illustrate the unsolved problems of this widespread metabolic disease.

During the first third of his film Norman P. Schenker, on the other hand, provided a brief review of the known facts about diabetes. The questions which remain unsolved are only hinted at. Two thirds of the film deals with the latest diagnostic and therapeutic methods, clearly described in the typical language of practising doctors.

Simple trick photographs stick in the mind of the viewer. The text is informative and like the photography makes a vivid impression on the doctor who encounters the "plague of diabetes" (Fromm) more and more frequently.

Professor Levine commented that diabetes is possibly the most widespread disease of all. It used to be assumed that one per cent of the population suffered from it. But mass examinations have shown that in this country alone there are one million diabetics who are unaware that they suffer from the disease because they do not experience any specific complaints.

The development of this chronic disease depends on early diagnosis. If they do not receive treatment, eighty per cent of all diabetics eventually suffer from severe damage to the large and small blood vessels. The consequences are heart attacks, eye complaints, kidney failure and clotting of the blood vessels in the brain (strokes) or in the legs (intermittent lameness).

Damage to the blood vessels can only be avoided or delayed if the disease is recognised and treated in good time, in fact before it has manifested itself in other ways. For the first time the film *Diabetes – Konzept und Praxis* discusses in depth damage to blood vessels as a consequence of metabolic disturbances.

In his speech Levine said, "We have always concentrated on the blood-sugar level and paid too little attention to damage to the blood vessels." Once diabetes has fully developed, damage to the blood vessels advances unchecked. It depends on the "age of the disease" not on its severity.

This was one of Levine's main points. He added, "Anyone who claims that he knows what diabetes really is simply proves that he does not understand diabetes at all."

Today diabetes researchers are again directing their attention to the interalveolar cell-islets in the pancreas. Levine reminded his audience that it was just one hundred years ago that the German medical student Paul Langerhans discovered the cell-islets, He initiated diabetes research and the etiology of the disease is still not known.

Curt Engelhorn, managing director of Boehringer-Mannheim, stated that the film *Diabetes – Konzept und Praxis* is to be issued in seven different languages.

(DIE WELT, 15 April 1969)

Mass cancer examinations urged

At the recent Federal Republic surgeons' conference in Munich Professor Demling of Erlangen University hospital stressed the demand that whole sections of the population should be examined for cancer of the stomach. Stomach cancer had been diagnosed in twenty per cent of the cases which had been examined in good time

Professor Demling reported that complaints affecting the gastro-intestinal tract could now be diagnosed more easily thanks to a new instrument. Completely flexible glass-fibre instruments with movable heads have been developed which make it possible to penetrate the duodenum via the stomach and to investigate the opening to the bile-duct and the pancreas.

This utterly flexible stomach mirror is particularly useful for the early diagnosis of stomach cancer because there are no blind corners. Under supervision samples of tissue can be removed from all regions of the stomach for investigation.

In the opinion of Professor Maki of Tohuku University (Japan), the chances of recovery even if the disease has reached an advanced stage are much greater than they used to be. Since 1940 the mortality rate in cases of complete removal of the stomach has decreased from twenty to 7.7 per cent (1960).

Operations in the region of the gall bladder, liver, exit from the stomach and the duodenum are particularly tricky because during an operation in this area – the "storm-centre" of many medical complaints – the bile-duct is sometimes damaged by mistake.

Dr Schiefers (Bonn) reported on an analysis of 120 cases in which a "restorative operation" was necessary because the bile-duct had been injured or constricted. In his opinion the main reason for disturbances in the bile flow was surgical injury of the bile-duct which was either not noticed or inadequately treated.

Plastic surgery has been successfully used for these restorative operations. For example, the remaining healthy part of the bile-duct can be extended by attaching it to a triangular intestinal lobe and the flow of gall into the intestine can thus be ensured.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 11 April 1969)

■ THE ECONOMY

Experts diagnose boom conditions

DANGERS OF OVER-HEATING NEED TO BE WATCHED

Two important factors permit a fairly accurate forecast of the immediate economic future. The economy's pulse is again beating steadily, perhaps so vigorously that the economy's temperature can be said to be rising.

The country is in the midst of a boom. Since booms are usually followed by periods of sluggish activity, economic policy must be directed accordingly. This is the second factor to be considered.

The Bundesbank has not concealed the direction which interventionist measures will take. It has committed itself so strongly to price stability that it is now clear that it will do everything in its power to curb the price spiral.

The Bundesbank has thus become the interpreter of a deep-rooted public aspiration in this country. Most of us associate creeping inflation with social injustice that deals the heaviest blows to those who are on the lowest rungs of the economic ladder — pensioners and those who are very dependent on their savings.

Pension increments offer no real protection against currency devaluation since compensation is forthcoming only every three years. Advising depositors to offset their inflationary losses by choosing the best forms of investment only applies to the few who are really acquainted with the various methods of saving. The majority are still at a loss.

Since moreover, the past twenty years have shown that rising prices do not stimulate growth, those who preached expansion at the expense of stability have turned out to be commercial speculators whom inflation helps to pay off their debts.

Minister of Finance Franz Josef Strauss, a skilled hand at tapping fundamental moods in the electorate, was one of the first to raise the flag of stability. This is election year. It was not surprising therefore that Professor Karl Schiller, the Minister of Economic Affairs, soon followed Strauss's example and proclaimed his views on stability, though with greater restraint.

Under the gentle guidance of the Bundesbank, the measures taken by the government last March to cool the economy bore all the marks of a compromise between economic necessity and tactical



considerations with a view to the autumn elections. No one should wrinkle his nose at such manoeuvres. Ministers are concerned with power.

As long as they do not embark on a course that would plunge the country into financial and economic chaos while protecting their own and their parties' interests — as other governments have done before them — the public should not react too fastidiously.

Besides, it must certainly be said to the credit of the present government that until now it has resisted all temptations to a familiar vice and start distributing "election gifts" to curry the voters' favour.

Judging by the electorate's present mood, the most welcome gift would be stable price levels. This is a gift the public would truly appreciate. Since the politicians are aware of this, it is to be expected that the government and the Bundesbank will pull on the same rope.

This is bound to have consequences. The Federal Republic not only is price stability in danger but also the other objective of a responsible economic policy, a sound balance of trade. When in the interests of two objectives such as these corrective measures must be taken, Bonn and Frankfurt are faced with the task of squaring the circle.

The danger is that a successful campaign for stable prices can lead to an increase in export surpluses and later to speculative inflow of foreign exchange. In a sense, the struggle for stable prices is self-defeating in the common phrase of economists

This is the flaw in the argument. If more money enters the Federal Republic than leaves the country, price stability at home will again be labour wasted. Accordingly, it is highly probable that Bundesbank directors who saw a solution last November in an upward revaluation of the Mark will again recommend this expedient in the hope that price increases abroad will be neutralised in their effect on prices in the Federal Republic.

This then will be the crucial test for the government. It must decide where the emphasis should lie — on stable prices or stable exchange rates.

One does not need to be a prophet to predict how this country's politicians will decide. If Kurt Georg Kiesinger's government is lucky, and it seems that it will be, the decision can be passed on to the Cabinet that will be appointed next autumn.

(DIE WELT, 16 April 1969)

Bundesbank comes out against price increases

The Bundesbank has criticised the view that price increases must be tolerated in the intersts of economic growth.

In its 1968 financial report the Bundesbank says that last year and early in 1969 the view gained wide currency that greater tolerance should be shown in economic policy to price increases. With reference to the period of recession, it was often argued even that a credit and financial policy aimed at stability is damaging to the economy since it restricts growth.

In the opinion of the Bundesbank, however, no empirical observation justifies the conclusion that this also applies to the Federal Republic.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 15 April 1969)

Decline in American exports worries manufacturers

Exports to America in the first three months of this year were about one third less than in the corresponding period of last year. Imports from the United States also showed a sharp decline.

Optimists among observers of trading relations between both countries must muster more than their usual share of optimism if they refuse to see these results as a gap in the usual development.

The American-Federal Republic Chamber of Commerce in New York doubtless has a point when it says that the dockworkers' strike on the east coast of America contributed very much to the decline in exports from the Federal Republic. The strike caused a major disruption of automobile exports to America, and these exports are a major item in the balance of trade of both countries.

The strike and its consequences also make it difficult at the moment to determine the extent to which the decline in the volume of trade with America can be attributed to the measures taken by the Federal government last year to rectify the balance of trade. It is still too early to conclude anything from the shifts in the pattern of trade which occurred last year, a result largely of advance orders.

Nevertheless, available figures for the first three months of this year are a sign that the barometer, which augured settled fair weather especially in the final months of 1968, cannot any longer be taken as a sure guide to future conditions. In the case of such a dynamic market as that of America, the Federal government's four per cent tax on exports is certainly a burden which it is to be hoped will not weigh too heavily on the balance of trade in the months ahead.

The uncertainty with which exporters looked even last December to their future relations with the American market is still as strong as ever. Some weeks will elapse before the termination of the strike will be reflected in the export figures of Federal Republic companies.

With such a vital market at stake, this uncertainty is a poor foundation this year for trading relations with America. This is an unfortunate reversal of the exceptionally good returns booked in 1968 by both countries.

The justifiable optimism of a few months ago must now be superseded by a realistic assessment of what can be done to bring about an improvement. In a political context, this assessment must take into consideration the opening moves of the Nixon Administration as well as the official and secret Vietnam talks. If a peace settlement is reached through one channel or another, a new situation will arise for the American economy to which countries on this side of the Atlantic must adjust in time.

If the latest figures on the prevailing trend in trading relations between America and the Federal Republic impress this fact on the appropriate authorities, they will have served their purpose. The noticeable decline in the volume of trade so far need not be regarded as a hiatus in trading relations between both countries.

It could represent a gap, certainly. From this neither Bonn nor Washington would profit, however.

(Handelsblatt, 14 April 1969)

Protectionism again rears its ugly head in world trade

When two years ago the Kennedy Round came to an end with the adoption of the longest list of tariff reductions in trading history, it was hoped that free trade throughout the world had finally won the day. In the intervening interval, however, protectionism is again rearing its ugly head in many countries.

True, customs duty in many categories has been reduced by half, but on both sides of the Atlantic traders are again protesting against quantitative restrictions on imports, against taxes which especially affect imports and against shrewd technical norms with which home products comply but not many foreign products in the same sector. The United States predicts that its trade surplus will shrink within one year from 16,000 million to 3,500 million Marks. These figures, however, are not a proof of protectionism in America's trading partners but of inflationary trends in that country. Inflation has greatly boosted imports.

It would be hazardous therefore to conclude from developments in the American balance of trade that imports should be artificially curbed. Such a policy could quickly lead to a protectionist war to the detriment of all.

The American Secretary of Trade, Mr Stans, now touring Common Market countries, has given the assurance that the American government is seeking alternative solutions. It is hoped to dampen domestic demand and stimulate exports.

Such pat commitments to liberal trading policy do not, unfortunately, remove the pitfalls that now exist. These are found primarily in the deterioration of the trading climate between the European Economic Community and the United States.

This uncertain climate is the breeding ground of appeals for protective measures. The American Secretary of Trade has suggested that grivances on both sides should be discussed as soon as possible. It is to be hoped that this good advice will be taken.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 16 April 1969)

■ COMMERCE

Duplication of effort at trade fairs

CONFLICTING INTERESTS MUST BE RESOLVED

The increasing number of fairs and exhibitions brings with it the danger of overlapping and impedes coordination of schedules, venues and intervals, according to industry's central fair and exhibition committee, Auma, in its latest report. Auma suggests ways of avoiding this confusion.

Conflicting interests of exhibitors, visitors and organisers must somehow be resolved. Auma has been acting as mediator all along.

Auma goes on to say, however, that "industrial groups, especially fair and exhibition organisers, are asking whether Auma's purely advisory activities suffice or whether the organisation should be given effective means to improve planning and coordination." In other words, the proliferation of fairs, which here and there has led to minor wars between organisers, is reason enough for Auma to demand effective means of intervention.

"Auma has put forward various proposals that are now being discussed. Care must be taken to ensure that whatever system is adopted it must comply with the regulations of the EEC's monopoly laws."

Apart from these problems, last year was a bright one for exhibitons which drew increasing numbers of exhibitors and spectators. With competition becoming keener, companies availed themselves of the opportunity to monitor the market at these events.

Fair organisers continued to extend their facilities. New terrain was prepared for the boat exhibition on Lake Constance. Essen received an additional 90,000 square feet of enclosed display space.

Düsseldorf is planning a new fair complex of over 756,000 square feet, a pavilion for office equipment and another 225,000 square feet pavilion for the electronics industry.

Munich is considering expanding its facilities by 270,000 square feet and new fair grounds are envisaged for Nuremberg. Auma is confident that these plans for extensions and new buildings will greatly strengthen this country's position in international fair competition.

The only danger is that demand will not keep pace with the growing supply of facilities. This would lead to cut-throat competition between domestic organisers.

With the support of the Federal Ministeries of Economic Affairs and Agriculture this country was officially represented last year at 76 foreign fairs, thirteen more than in 1967. This year, 74 official foreign contingents are foreseen. The majority of these stands will be at special exhibitions.

Auma is not happy with the extent of public financial support. Last year, the Ministry of Economic Affairs earmarked only thirteen million Marks for official representation at foreign industrial exhibitions. Agricultural allocations for the same purpose amounted to 4.5 million Marks. The 1969 figures are 13.5 million and 4.36 million Marks respectively.

Thirty exhibitions contributed to communal advertising for foreign events organised with the assistance of the Minstry of Economic Affairs.

(Handelsblatt, 15 April 1969)

Handicrafts industries have never had it so good!

Kieler Nachrichten

Handicrafts seem to be on the sunny side of the economy. Orders, turnover and the volume of investment are greater than they were last year.

Prices have also veen affected, however, by the increase in activity. Overall turnover this year is expected to amount to 147,000 to 150,000 million Marks, as compared with 140,000 million Marks in 1968. Figures issued by the trade's associations for the first quarter underline this trend. Judging by returns at the International Handicrafts Fair in Munich, surplus capacity in this sector will be rare for some time to come.

At present, about 3,000 handicrafts enterprises with a turnover of over 6,000 million Marks operate in this country. As medium-size specialised concerns they are willing customers of industry with much investment potential.

Rationalisation and technological progress are forcing these enterprises to renew their plant after six to seven years. Especially in this sector the handicrafts exhibition demonstrated great inventiveness and splendid quality in the metal and plastic sections. High standards also prevailed in the woodwork and textiles departments.

Price warfare is keener in the general swell of activity. Spokesmen in the woodworking sector say that pre-recession price levels have not yet been reached. Other exhibitors admitted that they were planning price increases of five to sic per cent.

In manufacturing, machines in the wood sector account for eighteen to 35 per cent of production. In many other sectors serial production represents up to sixty per cent of overall output.

Many companies are being forced by the economic trend to reorganise their manufacturing processes.

Small and medium-size companies in rural areas are major competitors of their town- and city based counterparts. This is because of their greater mobility. It is easier for them to move to better production centres.

This problem is acute in the cities. Traffic conditions and municipal improvement schemes are forcing many factories to leave residential areas.

Since the market is showing no signs of drying up, craftsmen are slow to encourage inter-company cooperation. Smaller groups, such as turners, floorlayers and woodworkers, show a greater willingness to cooperate to avoid unnecessary competition.

In the heating sanitation and cabinet-making sectors the initial success of a cooperative production programme is noted with satisfaction.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 19 April 1969)

Handicrafts exhibition at Munich

The International Handicrafts Exhibition proved for the 21st time that handicrafts are still thriving, despite industrial encroachments. They have gone through various stages of development in recent years, but opportunities for inventive craftsmen willing to adjust to the times have increased.

The long-standing president of the central association of craftsmen, Joseph Wild, is responsible for many of the stimulants and aid measures from which the trade is now profiting. At the Munich exhibition he spoke of the "great process of readjustment" which handicrafts have passed through in this century.

Besides Wild, many sympathetic representatives of industry see great opportunities for craftsmen as sub-contractors of industry. Under the chairmanship of Dr Ernst Wolf Mommsen the study group concerned with problems of industry and handicrafts met for the fifth time.

Attention was drawn to the progress made in coordinating the industrial and handicrafts sectors so that they complement each other. The members of the group hope to prepare a sound basis of partnership, and it is hoped that even greater progress will be made in the months and years ahead.

As far as industrial sub-contractors are concerned a more efficient organisational foundation is required.

Handicrafts and industry must cultivate a healthy spirit of cooperation. The handicrafts enterprise eager for partnership must adjust as far as possible to the structure of large-scale industry. Industry's interest in such partnership should be great since the last economic recession showed that small enterprises are often better able to surmount crises than their more powerful competitors. In times of economic crisis they are better equipped to contribute to an improvement in the industrial climate.

(DIE WELT, 15 April 1969)

Breweries must merge to meet competition

Many breweries merged last year, especially in North Rhine-Westphalia, Hanover and Nuremberg. Production is gradually being concentrated in a few major concerns with far-flung interests.

These include the Oetker group, the Henninger-Reemtsma group and the breweries proper, Dortmunder Union and Schultheiss-Patzenhofer. Despite their considerable size, all these firms account for only three to seven per cent of beer output in the Federal Republic. Compared to British, American, French and Dutch breweries they are minor concerns.

In the United States 300 breweries share a market of 200 million inhabitants. In the Federal Republic 2,000 breweries compete on a market of sixty million people (who, however, drink twice as much beer as the Americans). In Bavaria, an additional 20,000 families brew their own beer.gallons of beer annually. Italian, French and Dutch breweries average 220,000 gallons.

Beer is still sold "around the brewery chimney" in this country, although some breweries have an outstanding reputation in many parts of the world, exporting beer to more than fifty countries. Nevertheless, compared to Denmark, Holland or Czechoslovakia, beer exports here are still relatively low.

Beer consumption in this country, now about 250 pints annually per head of population, is near its peak. This means that an increase in sales will be at the expense of weaker competitors.

This has led major breweries in the course of time to buy up smaller companies whose clients — especially restaurants and distributors — are also taken over. Redundant facilities are then closed down.

Production can hardly be increased then either since transportation of bottled beer is only profitable within certain limits. Bottles and crates often weigh more than the beer. Transportation, collection and storage of empties account for much of the expense involved in maintaining a market for bottled beer.

More and more breweries are now introducing one-trip bottles made of light glass or plastic material. Production of tinned beer is also increasing.

Many breweries dispatch their beer in large tanker vehicles. They have strategically situated filling plants or have their bottles filled in other breweries. Major concerns are expanding their markets by buying up large breweries and using them as a base to extend their clientele.

Are there "national brands" of beer like in other countries? It seems that the German beer-drinker still prefers his local brew. He is not influenced by new wrappings and containers.

Most breweries are family concerns, although they may officially have the form of joint-stock companies. As family enterprises, they jealously guard their independence.

With every new generation, however, resistance to partnership with other companies and to the sale of blocks of shares to other breweries is declining. It may be only a question of time until the beer market will be thoroughly reorganised in this country — doubtless much to the regret of many loyal patrons of local brands.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 13 April 1969)

A decision has been reached on the so-called European airbus. It is to be built by France and this country without British participation. Although both countries had implored Britain to stand by the project and defiantly announced their intention of going it alone anyway hopes of Britain staying in were slender.

Secretary of State Klaus von Dohnanyi may have stated in Bonn, after returning from the London conference at which the decision was made public, that the door remains open for Whitehall but next to no one seriously expects Britain to cross the threshold.

It is more than likely that Whitehall would have thrown in the towel earlier had there not been the worry that Britain might be denounced as the sabateur of a European community project. Although Britain is as much a prospective Common Market member as ever it has now pulled out after all, which only goes to show how grave Whitehall's misgivings must be.

Britain has no political objections to the construction of a 250-seater short-haul jet, its misgivings are economic only. Poor sales prospects hardly seem to justifiy development costs that even the planners now estimate at between 1,600 and 1,800 million Marks, and practice has shown that the final costs are invariably a good deal higher.

The objections raised in London are even more valid now that Britain has pulled out. This country will not, as originally planned, have to invest 300 to 500 million Marks. Now that the costs are

■ AVIATION

British withdrawal and poor sales plague airbus



to be shared with France alone this sum has doubled, and the airbus's sales prospects are even worse, since British airlines *cannot be counted on to buy one.*

Other prospective buyers also contine to show no signs of interest. Condor, Lufthansa's charter subsidiary, recently even went so far as to issue a public statement to the effect that the European airbus for distances of up to 1,2000 miles was totally unsuitable for it.

Only Air France has announced that it is prepared to buy - if the French government insists. Which makes it seem not unlikely that the 75 to eighty airbusses that need to be sold to recoup development costs will not all find buyers.

The European airbus was not wishful thinking from the start. The idea of a large airliner for short and medium distances during the seventies and eighties, an idea born in Europe years ago, was a good one, as the success of American projects shows. What went wrong was the way it was put into practice.

Instead of first doing detailed research into the kind of aircraft that could be sold, overall sales estimates were made and plans worked out on the strength of them. Not until the airlines showed frank disinterest were talks with the customers commenced. The upshot was a loss of two years or more.

The airbus designers also appear to have made things easy for themselves technologically. They shunned virgin territory and now seem to have made do with what was technically feasible in about the year 1960.

So the European airbus stands no real chance of being able to compete with the models since designed with the technology of 1970 in mind by the major American manufacturers. The fact that American airbuses are larger and designed for longer distances makes no difference.

The situation would only be different if it could be proved that the American models were uneconomic over short distances, which is improbable. An airbus *designed by Boeing is even intended for* distances similar to those for which the European airbus is to cater.

If this is the way things are, is there any point whatsoever in building a European airbus? Clearly not. But this, of course, is not the point. Bonn and Paris do not advocate the airbus because it would be a fantastic aircraft but in order to keep Europe's aircraft industry alive and kicking. And there is every reason why they should.

Aeroplanes have a future. In the long term aviation is better and less expensive than earthbound travel. Whether the jumbo jet is the be all and end all of air transport remains, of course, to be seen.

Putting large areas of Europe and elsewhere on the aviation map calls for an aircraft that can take off and land in distances that have not so far been feasible. European designers still have the edge on American in, for instance, the VTOL sector.

Would it not be far more sensible to convert this knowhow into passenger airliners rather than to compete with the United States in bulding large aircraft, a contest in which Europe could only hold its own by means of administrative measures?

Admittedly, there appears to be good reason for pointing out that swift action must be taken. The sad story of the European airbus speaks for itself.

(DIE WELT, 12 April 1969)

Mercedes Silver Arrow with Wankel engine

Motorists and motor manufacturers all over the world sat up and took notice at the news that Daimler-Benz are working on a Wankel-engined Mercedes Silver Arrow. Competitors uneasily suspect that Mercedes may be planning to repeat its racing successes of old.

Daimler-Benz have been working on the Wankel rotary engine since 1961. Mercedes manager Dr Zahn and technical director Dr Scherenberg have made no secret of the fact that intensive research is going into the Wankel project.

An entire of specialists in the Firm's research section are investigating the possibilities of rotary piston engines. There were even ideas at one stage of developing a Wankel diesel engine, but nothing has yet come of them.

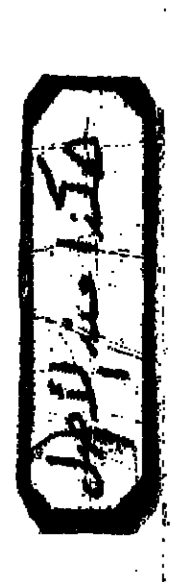
Reports that the new sports car with the Mercedes star is to have a three-chamber Wankel engine cannot be correct. The presumed chamber volume of 1,800 cc is the equivalent of only a conventional 3.6- litre engine.

As the 1970 formula specifications allow racing cars with engines of between 3.5 and five litres Mercedes would stand little chance of competing with more powerful-engined competitors. Ford, for instance, will definitely be using every available cubic centimetre.

The manufacturer's own comment, in an interview with Welt am Sonntag:"We are working on a Wankel-engined sports car. Prototypes are undergoing trials. A final decision on the bodywork has yet to be made.

"The car will have two folding doors and the engine mounted in front of the rear axle. If the trials are a success a small number of the new sports cars will be manufactured. On no account will the Wankel engine be series-produced."

(WELT am SONNTAG, 13 April 1969)



Vertical take-off passenger plane being considered

Hamburger Flugzeugbau are, over the next few years, to devote serious attention to the possibility of developing a vertical take-off passenger aircraft, managing director Hans Wocke announced on 15 April following the classification of the firm as a development manufacturer by the Federal Republic aviation authorities.

The technical work is already in progress. Herr Wocke hopes that the project will be an economic proposition by the late seventies. The VTOL project is an eight- to 100- seater capable of speeds of more than 500 miles an hour. HFB have been working on vertical take-off problems for the Defence Ministry since 1962.

Other Federal Republic manufacturers have also been involved in VTOL development work for military purposes for some time. Prototypes have been developed but no aircraft has yet gone into series production.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 16 April 1969)

Bölkow to start production on civil helicopter

Later this year Bölkow of Munich are to start series production of the Bo 105, the first civilian helicopter ever to be mass-produced in the history of German aviation.

A multi-purpose aircraft, the Bo 105 is available as both a six-seater and a two-seater with room for two stretchers, as required by the ambulance service of the autobahn police.

Great things are expected of the Bo 105. The Vertol division of Boeing has secured the option to manufacture it under licence in the United States and Bölkow themselves already have thirty options and firm orders.

The new model has a jointless rotor consisting of a titanium rotor head and fibreglass-toughened blades. As a result the Bo 105 needs virtually no servicing; also it can keep on the move for far longer than other, comparable helicopters. (Frankfurter Neue Presse, 12 April 1969)

■ TECHNOLOGY

Atomic Energy Forum adjusts to the changing times

On 26 May 1959, when the Federal Republic Atomic Energy Forum was set up in Karlsruhe to promote the peaceful exploitation of atomic energy, work in the field in this country was in its early stages.

A small experimental power reactor at Kahl in the Main was under construction and the founding fathers still had vivid recollections of the second Geneva conference on atomic energy of 1958, which had put a damper on many premature hopes and certainly reduced expectations to a reasonable minimum.

Less than a decade later six nuclear power stations feed electricity into the national grid and the Otto Hahn, Europe's first nuclear merchantman, is engaged in pioneer work for nuclear-powered supertankers and container vessels of the future.

What tasks must the Atomic Energy Forum perform in the changing circumstances? This year's reactor conference of the Atomic Energy Forum, held in Frankfurt, was confronted by changes before it even got under way. The evening before, a nuclear technology group (KTG) consisting of 163 members was formed in Frankfurt.

Unlike the Atomic Energy Forum, the new association is based on individual membership. The average age of founding members is between thirty and forty. The chairman is Professor Wolf Häfele, the man in charge of the revolutionary fast breeder project at Karlsruhe nuclear research centre.

In the past the Atomic Energy Forum has, with every justification, concentrated mainly on using industrial leverage to come to terms with the atomic age. At the same time is has engaged in public relations work in order to prepare public opinion for the changes in store and to eliminate scattered mistrust, always in close conjunction with the state. Its members consist of representatives of the government, government agencies and authorities, industrial firms and associations.

In addition to industrial and commercial activity and public relations work the KTG feels that science and technology should now also be taken into account.

Professor Häfele, a convincing advocate of the new grouping, does not feel that the KTG should function as a kind of trade union. First and foremost it should bring about scientific contact between nuclear physicist in this country. The lack of an organisation of this kind has been felt for some time.

The group's declared aims are to cater for scientific discussion between disciplines and institutions, to promote younger men and women and to provide information on all issues of scientific and technological development in nuclear energy.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 April 1969)

Optronics research

is a combination of optics and electronics designed to make things visible at night. This piece of equipment, which is in use at AEG-Telefunken's works in Wedel, near Hamburg, tests the performance of photo amplification valves in poor light. These valves magnify available light 10,000- to 100,000 fold and so enable the human eye to make out objects even in almost total darkness. The use of infra-red radiation to see at night has obvious military and civilian uses and optronics is likely to make great strides in the none too distant future.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

Great increase in the use of computers

At the beginning of this year 5,007 computers were installed and 1,445 on order, according to statistics released by Diebold Deutschland of Frankfurt. At the beginning of 1968 a total of 3,863 computers were in operation and 1,607 on order. By mid-1968 4,390 electronic brains were fuctioning and 1,551 were on the way.

Smaller computers costing up to 20,000 Marks a month to rent are making extremely good progress on the Federal Republic market, whereas medium-sized machines are declining in significance. Computers costing more than 80,000 Marks a month, on the other hand, have retained their share of the market over the last three years.

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1969)

■ TOURISM

Fuggers' 16th century housing project

QUAINT CUSTOMS ARE STILL MAINTAINED

Frankfurter Rundschau
Unabhängige Tageszeitung

By just taking a few steps to the right from the town hall square in Augsburg the visitor comes upon another world. At a moment's notice the noise of the traffic ceases and in the midst of the loud city a *miniature city opens its doors. It is the* Fugger settlement – *die Fuggerei*.

This world famous social welfare venture was first established 450 years ago in *1519*. The founders were the three Fugger brothers, Ulrich, Georg and Jakob, who gave their name to the settlement.

At the beginning of the 16th century Augsburg was one of the largest cities in Europe boasting a population in excess of 40,000. Because of the city's size there was a considerable housing shortage particularly homes for people who were not too wealthy.

So the Fugger brothers, at the time the richest merchants in Germany, decided to build a settlement of houses that were to provide homes for poorer citizens. In the feudal world of the 16th century this was a revolutionary development. The brothers planned fifty houses that would provide homes for one hundred families. These homes withstood the storms and tribulations of history until the Second World War. In the last year of this war a bomb caused considerable damage to *die Fuggerei*. But the houses have since been restored and the interiors modernised.

The administration and upkeep of the settlement is financed by the Fugger Foundation, provided with funds by the Fugger family.

Today 300 people live in the settlement surrounded by many works of art of great worth. There is for example in the old Markus-Kirche an altar picture done by the Venetian painter Jacobo Palma. At the end of the 17th century Franz Mozart, a building worker, lived in the Fugger settlement. He was the great-great-grand-father of the famous Wolfgang Amadeus.

People rush to try and let accommodation in the Fugger settlement because over the 450 years the rents charged have altered very little. To rent a house with from two to three rooms and a kitchen the charge for one year is one gulden. That is by today's values about 1.75 Marks or 15 Pfennigs per month.

And apart from the rent there are also one to two other quaint customs that still prevail in the Fugger settlement, customs that date from another era. For instance the gateway to the Fugger settlement is closed punctually at ten o'clock every evening. People coming home late have to ring for the porter and pay him 10 Pfennigs to have the gate opened.

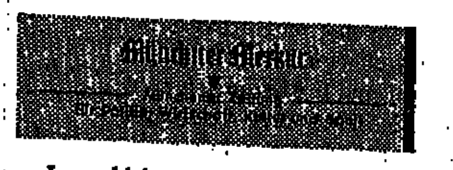
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 April 1969)



Houses that were build for the not-so-well-off in 1519

(Photo: Verkehrsverein Augsburg)

Kneipp association calls for better health education





I would hope that my teaching helps the lot of everyone." This was the wish expressed by the founder of the famous natural cure method, Pastor Sebastian Kneipp. After his death in 1897 his teachings had spread far, and the era of therapy by movement had begun, and therapy that was adopted not only by those sanatoria that bore the name Kneipp. Others include swimming baths, gymnastic centres as well as riding stables and tennis clubs.

At the moment there is a campaign for national health week which has been sponsored by the association of spas that follow Pastor Kneipp's methods.

In Munich a number of lectures are to be given, dealing in the main with heart troubles. Doctors and other specialists are scheduled to speak on themes such as "Turning point in heart troubles" or "Suicide with knife and fork", or "Eating, wellbeing and beauty".

Along with these lectures there is to be an exhibition related to the work of health resorts os as better to inform the public of their function. The exhibition will also give special emphasis to the work undertaken at the various Kneipp resorts.

There are at the moment in this country 45 Kneipp resorts and 478 Kneipp associations with 80,000 members. There are two schools were teachers for these resorts can be trained. The Kneipp Association is headed by Engelbert Memminger.

According to Engelbert Memminger there is not enough emphasis given to health education by the state and by the Federal states, who cannot in any event devote enough time to this question.

Kneipp resorts are anxious to obtain the privilege of accepting for cures people who are under some kind of social health insurance.

The dangers of death from heart trouble increase annually. In cooperation with the medical training school at Hanover the Kneipp association has carried out 6,000 tests with volunteers. It has been proved that 3,000 of these persons who followed the Kneipp methods, giving up alcohol and smoking, lived ten years longer. It is hoped that the Kneipp method will make a lasting contribution in the feight against heart troubles.

(Münchner Merkur, 12 April 1969)

Next population census to be organised in 1970

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

This country's next census will take place on 27 May 1970, according to a statement made by the Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden. This next census will be undertaken in conjunction with similar population counts in other countries in the world.

According to the Wiesbaden office the census will be "the most modern ever undertaken in this country." Ninety per cent of the population will have questionnaires to answer that only require a few marks with a pencil in special spaces provided on the forms. Ten percent of householders will have further questions that will need to be answered more fully.

Apart from personal details and questions about employment the census will this time include enquiries about school and trade or technical training. The information gained will be important in deciding education policy in the future.

Numerical increases in population are essential items of information so that rationalised planning in government, economic and research sectors can be implemented.

(DIE WELT, 17 April 1969)

Student organisation provides holidays for children

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The organisation with the title "Students for Europe – Students for Berlin" has taken care of more than 32,000 young boys and girls, mainly from Berlin, for their holidays over the past ten years, according to a press release made by the Berlin Senator for Youth Affairs and Sport, Horst Korber.

The Senator added that following the lead given by the building college at Claisthal-Zellerfeld most universities and institutes of higher education had taken part in the project of looking after Berlin boys and girls in this way.

Horst Korber said that this year it was hoped that 6,000 children would be able to have holidays in the cities of their birth, included in these would be 3,300 young Berliners.

The money to finance this project is mainly collected from students offering the payment for blood doning, fashion shows and various concerts.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 14 April 1969)

■ SPORT

Does trainer Helmut Schön lack decision?

How relevant are the game and the result, layman and pundits alike ask after the match, in assessing the work of the trainer? To what extent, football fans from this country and televiewers of the first leg of the World Cup qualifying match between Scotland and the Federal Republic of Germany here in Glasgow are also asking, is the 1-1 outcome to be credited to national coach Helmut Schön?

This country's football internationals have played eleven of their last fourteen fixtures abroad, lost once (and that, the 2-1 against Chile, was a controversial business), defeated for the first time the last two world champions, Brazil and England, and remain one of the most-feared teams on the football pitches of the world.

So Helmut Schön has reason enough to counter attacks on the strength of his record. Yet he does not. He still appears uncertain, sceptical and at times even suspicious, as though people are always trying to malign his achievements.

Two days before the Glasgow game he announced the team. Only for one position had the final choice not been made. Either Höttges or Patzke. When asked on what the final choice depended he brusquely replied: "On me!" in much the same tone of voice as though he were saying "Were you expecting me to conduct a public opinion poll? "

Or, to take another example, at the last Federal league encounter between Hertha of West Berlin and Kaiserslautern a local reporter invited Schön by shortwave to show himself in Berlin again. Helmut Schön's reaction was one of annoyance. He heatedly pointed that he had just seen goalkeeper Gross, of whom he has a very high opinion, in Offenbach. Schön wears himself out over trivialitics, makes life difficult for himself.

His strained relations with the Press are occasionally reflected in the way he deals with his players. Helmut Schön hates to hurt anyone's feelings, is afraid of taking decisions and postpones them as long as possible. In Wolfang Weber's case this propensity assumed grotesque proportions. Weber, he said, was not injured but he was not entirely fit either, so he was not being selected.

By leaning first one way and then the other Schön eventually picked the ideal side certainly for the Scotland match. But what would he have stood to lose by stating frankly and in good time that Schnellinger is the man to pit against dangerous header specialist Gilzean, particularly as Hughes, an old friend of Schnelinger, who plays for Milan, was not selected as Scotland's outside left?

The game proved that Schön was right, which does not, of course, mean that Weber could not have done the same

Schön dithered in much the same way over the choice of goalkeeper. Maier or Wolter was a question many were asking before the selection was finally announced. Coach Schön solved the problem in a way of his own. Before the game against Wales three weeks earlier he asked Wolter whether he wanted to gain his tenth cap and with it the silver lapel pin that is awarded on such occasions.

Wolter replied that the goalkeeper who was intended for selection against Scotland should be picked. So Maier played. Schön has a slightly higher opinion of Maier than of the sober Brunswick player. Munich goalie Maier, Schön feels, posseses that little bit of genius that a goalkeeper sometimes needs.

Maier, it could hardly be denied, had a bad day against Wales. But logically Schön should still have given Maier preference. Bad day or no bad day, in three weeks he would not have grown worse than when first considered.

Either that or a prompt talk with Maier should have made it clear that Wolter was going to be picked for the Scotland game A straightforward situation, particularly where the goalkeeper is concerned, has a lasting effect on the atmosphere in the entire team.

Presumably Helmut Schön still underestimates himself and his authority with the players and fails to realise that he can be tougher. The players want leadership, wait for a clear statement of intent, even if they do not stand to gain personally.

It is repeatedly asserted that Helmut Schön has an easier time of it than his predecessor, Sepp Herberger. This is only partly true. Where fitness and nerves are concerned Federal League players nowadays are well equipped for a crucial international. They have a fair amount of routine and the difference between league and an international fixture is no longer as great as it used to be.

Where the difficulties arise is in the psychological nursing of the team before and after the great event. Here Helmut Schön usually hits the right wavelength and tends very much to let players have their own way.

This is particularly evident in the way he deals with Franz Beckenbauer, whom Schön admiringly calls a slovenly genius. A thin wire links the two men, the poles of the international side. Atmospheric disturbances could easily cause it to break. Schön knows better than anyone else that this is the case and acts accordingly.

Procrastination and diplomacy are the two extremes between which Helmut Schön operates. At times there is not much difference between the two. The team might well play with even more verve if only Schön were to add a generous helping of self–confidence to his repertoire.

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1969)

Another membership increase for Sports League

Latest membership figures released by the Federal Republic Sports League (DSB) show the usual annual increase, on this occasion to 8.9 million people of all ages engaged in organised sport as members of a total of 39,000 clubs.

The launching of the Second Way, a programme designed to encourage older people to take up sport, marked the beginning of a rapid increase in membership and comparisons with the pre-1960 figures are often and willingly made.

Between 1959 and 1968 DSB membership increased by 50.4 per cent (42.3 cent among the men and 81.1 per cent among the women). Over the same period the increase in the population as a whole was only 9.8 per cent.

Detailed study of the many figures not only reveals a gratifying increase in the amount of sporting activities engaged in by women and girls; it also shows that certain sports have growth rates way above average. They are, it would seem, the exclusive sports such as golf, riding, yachting and tennis, none of which are yet popular sports in this country.

They used to be the preserve of the well-to-do. Membership of a club was not only an expensive business; it was also dependent in one way or another on the approval of existing members.

Times have now changed. What used to be exclusive sports are on their way to becoming popular sports. On holiday or over the weekend more and more people join in.

The largest increase in membership among this category of sports has been achieved by the Federal Republic Golfing Association, which has 240 per cent more members now than in 1959. The main reasons for this increase are the increasing number of new golf courses and the growth in general prosperity.

There are many reasons for the 145-per-cent increase in membership of yacht clubs. Yachting is a sport for the whole family and one of the most attractive features of many holiday resorts on the North Sea the Baltic and this country's many lakes. Yachting courses are extremely popular.

Tennis, too, has far from reached the end of its present boom. Roughly sixty per cent more people play tennis today than in 1959. Clubs are no longer exclusive. Anyone can join.

The equestrian associations have done a great deal to popularise horse riding. Treks on horseback and courses for the general public have gained in popularity and the 156,000 members of horse riding clubs represent an increaseof 101 per cent in a mere eight years.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 April 1969)



Weekend yachting gains in popularity (Photo: Nordbild)